PUT A RING ON IT
SWEETHEART GIFTS FOR HIM {page 24} AND HER {page 25}

ROSANNE CASH ON THE LIST
THE GRAMMYS AND HER DAD {page 17}

UH-OH
MARRIAGE WOES ALREADY FOR KATY?
DISH {page 21}

OTTAWA metro®
Thursday, February 10, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

City backs bid to host World Cup

- Ottawa could host FIFA Under 20 Women's World Cup in 2014 and Women's World Cup in 2015
- Supporting bids for both soccer events will cost the city about $400,000

City council yesterday backed a bid to host two women's World Cup soccer events at Lansdowne Park, despite concerns the stadium's redevelopment and major road work scheduled for Bank Street won't be finished in time.

"I would want to confirm that that road is going to be done and confirm that the stadium is going to be done before committing city money," argued Capital Coun. David Chernushenko.

Mayor Jim Watson said the bid's Friday deadline made a snap vote necessary.

"The majority of council recognized from time to time there are extenuating circumstances, and it's a very good investment," he said.

STEVE COLLINS

Meow. And how

▶ Lester B. Pearson Catholic High School student Roxanne Delaney, 15, is transformed into a cat by Cats cast member Kristen Quartarone, who shared some of the musical's makeup and performance tips with kids from the Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa before last evening's performance. The hit Andrew Lloyd Webber show is appearing nightly at the National Arts Centre until Sunday.

STEVE COLLINS/FOR METRO

Backstage magic turns Boys and Girls into Cats

Politics

Bringing women to the party

- Women's Alliance Party aims to change gender imbalance in Parliament {page 4}

Transgender rights closer

Private member's bill passes third reading {page 3}

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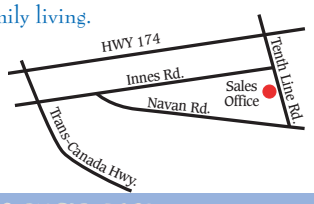

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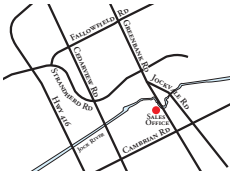

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School nominated for innovative work

Mother Teresa High School nominated for putting 'entrepreneurship in action'

JOE LOFARO
OTTAWA@METRONEWS.CA

Len Baldin's entrepreneurship projects at Mother Teresa High School have been nominated for the Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation (OCRI) award for high school innovation.

Grade 10-12 students are getting hands-on experience with such assignments as selling personal items on eBay, or exporting Canadian goods to a school in Spain.

"It's kind of a neat thing when doing what you normally do ... is being recognized outside the education world," said Baldin, the department head of business education.

His students are currently negotiating a deal with students at a Spanish school to export items such as maple syrup, Nanaimo bars, and other Canadiana. In return, they will import products from Spain.

"They're taking a look at the dos and don'ts of doing business in Spain, such as import and export restrictions."

Kathy Mahoney, VP of corporate programs at OCRI, said while companies can spark an interest in students by visiting schools, it really comes down to the teachers to get them interested in business.

Two other high schools, Longfields-Davidson Heights and De La Salle, were also nominated for the award.

"We don't teach entrepreneurship, per se, but we embrace the entrepreneurship spirit."
LEN BALDIN, MOTHER TERESA HIGH SCHOOL

Political. Photo op

▶ Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff skates with a group of kids on the Rideau Canal skateway in Ottawa yesterday.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Promoting candidates on ice

Michael Ignatieff and other Liberal MPs laced up for a skate and photo op along the canal to promote Liberal candidates who have been picked to run in local ridings in the next federal election.

SuperEx is cancelled

STEVE COLLINS/FOR METRO

▶ Mayor Jim Watson

Mayor Jim Watson offered no lifeline yesterday for SuperEx, which won't be held this year because it lacks a venue.

"It's regrettable but we're going to have to have a one-year lapse, and my hope is that they get their plans together for 2012 and 2013 and beyond," he said.

STEVE COLLINS

A small victory for transgender rights

Human Rights Act protection for transgender Canadians moved a step closer to reality last night.

"Awesome, awesome, awesome," said local Ottawa trans activist Joanne Law just after NDP MP Bill Siksay's private member's bill to amend the act passed third reading in the House of Commons by a margin of only eight votes.

"It's a new world," said Law who was born male but came out as a trans woman 30 years ago only to be fired from her job and lose a wrongful dismissal lawsuit. Law said the bill, if passed in the Senate will protect others from the discrimination she suffered.

SEAN MCKIBBON

CONTRIBUTED

▶ NDP MP Bill Siksay

1 news

Culture wars return to U.S. as gay marriage debate heats up. Scan code for story

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The CRTC deserves better than to be bullied over Twitter by a cabinet minister. More at metronews.ca/spindoctor

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Woman sees political change as her mandate

- Women's Alliance Party open to men and women
- Party aims to move beyond partisan in-fighting

SEAN MCKIBBON
@METRONEWS.CA

Canada has fewer women in parliament than less developed countries such as Mauritania and Afghanistan, but a new party aims to change that.

"Women want change and they are prepared to act," says Esther Matharu, leader of the newly formed Women's Alliance Party. "We're steeped in a system that's not functioning for the 21st century. The partisanship is sinking the people."

The party has a wide range of policy stances that Matharu says will appeal to both genders, including reducing the national debt, protecting the environment, securing Canada's international relationships and electoral reform toward proportional representation.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Esther Matharu with her grandson Rama Alexander.

Matharu, 61, is an agronomist with a background in international development work. She said the birth of her grandchild two years ago inspired her to get involved in politics.

"It gave me an idea of urgency. Now is the time to do something about the world the future generation will live in," she said.

Matharu's party held its first public meeting last week. While attendance was hampered somewhat by a snowstorm, Matharu said the gathering went well, with attendees inspired to join the political conversation. More information is available at womensallianceparty.com.

Award. Debut

▶ Coun. Steve Desroches, left, and Mayor Jim Watson, right, present Betty Giffin with the Mayor's City Builder Award.

ROGER LALONDE/CITY OF OTTAWA

City honours quilt donor's efforts

Betty Giffin of Barrhaven was presented yesterday with the inaugural Mayor's City Builder Award, a new civic honour that recognizes exemplary volunteerism and service to the community. Giffin is founder of Victoria's Quilts Canada, a not-for-profit volunteer organization that makes and donates handmade quilts to cancer patients. For more information, visit victoriasquiltscanada.com.

$2.93M The money raised by city employees for the United Way in the last five years.

City workers step up

City of Ottawa employees have connected with the community by contributing $600,400 to United Way, making it the largest community campaign in Ottawa for the second year in a row. METRO

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Ground copters in rough seas: Report

All 17 people who died on Cougar Flight 491 were alive when the helicopter crashed ◆ Impact disabled flotation devices

Fatal impact

Key recommendations and findings in the TSB report into the fatal crash of Cougar Flight 491:

- **Flights should not be** allowed over seas that are too rough for a survivable emergency landing.
- **Sikorsky S-92 helicopters** should be able to run dry without lubrication in their main gearboxes for at least 30 minutes.
- **The FAA should look at** extreme environments and decide whether gearboxes should be able to operate for longer than 30 minutes without oil.
- **Emergency air supply** should be on all flights that require survival suits.

A Transportation Safety Board report into a deadly helicopter crash off Newfoundland recommends grounding flights over seas that are too rough for a survivable emergency landing.

Wendy Tadros, the board's chairwoman, said yesterday that all Sikorsky S-92 helicopters should be able to run dry without lubrication in their main gearboxes for at least 30 minutes.

She also said the Federal Aviation Administration in the United States should look at harsh operating environments and decide whether the gearboxes should be able to operate for longer than 30 minutes without oil.

The board had already said that the failure of titanium studs that secured the oil filter bowl assembly to the helicopter's main gearbox caused a loss of oil pressure before Cougar Flight 491 crashed into the North Atlantic on March 12, 2009.

The crash killed 17 people who were on their way to Newfoundland's offshore oilfields.

The sole survivor, Robert Decker, was rescued after a narrow escape from the wreckage. He endured 75 minutes on the frigid ocean surface in a leaking survival suit as he waited for help.

Mike Cunningham, who led the investigation for the board, said those who died were alive when the helicopter crashed, and flotation collars meant to keep the aircraft from sinking never deployed.

"If the sea state is too rough for a successful emergency ditching, then a helicopter shouldn't be operating. Period."
WENDY TADROS, CHAIRWOMAN, TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

The pilots reported a loss of oil pressure in the chopper's main gearbox about 11 minutes before they hit the water. They turned back for land and told passengers they were ditching just before plunging into the sea about 55 kilometres east of St. John's. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Gems. For Jesus

My husband and I are still deeply in love. We think you could make better use of this ring than we can.
"All for Jesus."
Salvation Army Donation

▶ A diamond ring worth several thousand dollars is on sale at a jewelry store in Dalton, Ga., after a couple donated it to Salvation Army bell ringers.

MISTY WATSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Say it with diamonds

Salvation Army officials are selling one of the more unusual items they collected during their Red Kettle drive: A diamond wedding ring. An unidentified couple approached bell ringers Dec. 22 outside a grocery store in northern Georgia and left the ring. They also left a Christmas card with a note on the back. The ring is on sale at a Dalton jewelry store, where sealed bids are being taken for the next 30 days. It will then be sold to the highest bidder, with proceeds going to support Salvation Army services.

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Sex trial sought against Italian PM

Italian prosecutors demanded yesterday that Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi be put on immediate trial over accusations he paid for sex with a 17-year-old Moroccan girl and used his influence to try to cover it up. The Italian leader blasted the "disgusting" action, saying it aimed to topple his government.

The prosecutors, who filed their request in Milan, are seeking a trial now because they believe there is overwhelming evidence against the 74-year-old leader.

A judge must decide whether to accept the prosecutors' request and indict Berlusconi, or dismiss it. The decision is expected to be made in the next two weeks.

Berlusconi has a long history of legal woes and fierce battles with the Italian judiciary, which he accuses of being politically motivated against him. But this is the first judicial action that targets his private life and not his business dealings as a media mogul.

PIER PAOLO CITO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"It's shameful and disgusting. I wonder who's going to pay for these activities that, in my humble view, only have a subversive aim."

ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER SILVIO BERLUSCONI ON THE PROSECUTORS' REQUEST TO PUT HIM ON TRIAL

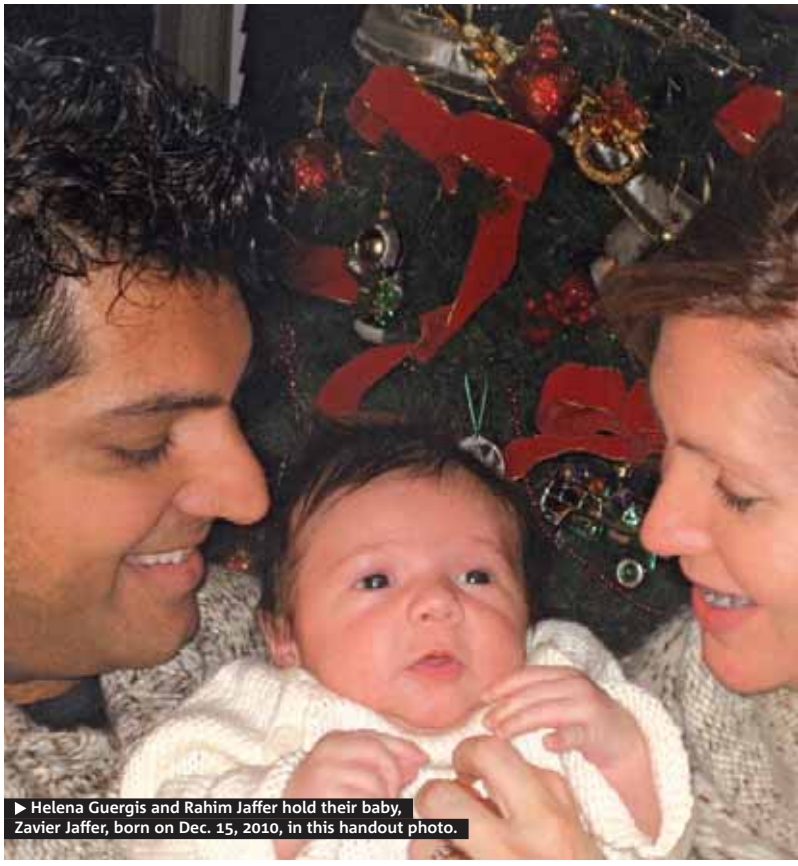
The case centres on his relationship with the Moroccan nightclub dancer nicknamed Ruby. Italian newspapers have been filled for weeks with salacious details about Berlusconi's parties at his villas, based on wiretaps of conversations between women who attended them.

The prosecutors allege that Berlusconi paid for sex with Ruby, who has since turned 18, then used his influence to get her out of police custody when she was detained for the suspected theft of $4,103 US, allegedly fearing her relationship to him would be revealed.

Ruby ultimately was released into the custody of a Berlusconi aide who also is under investigation.

Paying for sex with a prostitute is not a crime in Italy, but it is if the prostitute is younger than 18.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Helena Guergis and Rahim Jaffer hold their baby, Zavier Jaffer, born on Dec. 15, 2010, in this handout photo.

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HO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Guergis still wants answers

Former Conservative MP promises to put all the information she receives about the allegations against her out in the open

The birth of Helena Guergis's baby boy in late December seemed like the joyous end to a terrible year, an opportunity to move past the murky allegations that cost her a cabinet post and the Tory nomination in her riding.

But little Zavier's arrival has only strengthened the independent Conservative MP's resolve to get answers about what happened last spring when she was publicly shunned from the Tory family.

"I still plan on running as an independent Conservative in the next election, and it just makes me realize that there's still this cloud," Guergis told The Canadian Press.

"The accuser is in control of the evidence, and also the judge and jury in this case. Very interesting."
HELENA GUERGIS

"I mean there's still a cloud there, there's still an explanation required for my constituents."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper publicly removed her from cabinet and caucus last April saying he had gotten wind of troubling allegations, and had referred the matter to the RCMP. Guergis's husband, former Conservative MP Rahim Jaffer, was also being scrutinized for his relationship with a Toronto businessman.

The RCMP ultimately declared last July they had closed the file on both Guergis and Jaffer, and no charges were laid.

Guergis has now taken steps to find out more about what kind of allegations were communicated to the RCMP. She put in a formal Privacy Act request for her file at the RCMP last August. Through that, she has discovered that information about her originated from four federal departments before it was sent to the Mounties, but she does not know which ones.

She says she's skeptical about how much information she will ultimately receive after delays in the release of the file.

"Having managed access-to-information requests in the past, I know the control the government has over them," said Guergis, former minister of state for the status of women.

The Conservatives have always maintained that Guergis was fully briefed on the allegations they passed on to the Mounties, and that they centred on alleged influence peddling by Jaffer in his private business dealings.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Giffords speaking again

Arizona congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords has spoken for the first time since she was shot in the forehead, her spokesman said yesterday, yet another significant milestone in her recovery from a traumatic brain injury.

Giffords first spoke within the past few days and is speaking "more and more," said C.J. Karamargin said. He didn't know what her first words were, but said that at breakfast one morning she asked for toast.

"She's working very hard and it's paying off," he told The Associated Press. "We always knew Gabby is a fighter."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Healthy appetite

- In a Facebook post on Tuesday, Giffords' husband Mark Kelly said his wife had her appetite back and was eating three times a day, "even though it's hospital food."

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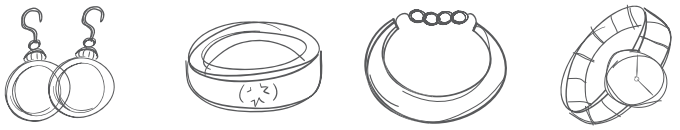

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KHALIL HAMRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Tourists listen to a historian in front of the Sphinx in Giza, Egypt's most famous tourist attraction, yesterday. The pyramids reopened to tourists yesterday as anti-government demonstrations entered their third week.

Government efforts fail to quell protests

Sharp warnings raise prospect of renewed crackdown Vice-president says there could be 'coup'

Thousands of state workers and impoverished Egyptians launched strikes and protests around the country yesterday over their economic woes as anti-government activists sought to expand their campaign to oust President Hosni Mubarak despite warnings from the vice-president that protests won't be tolerated much longer.

Some 8,000 protesters, mainly farmers, set barricades of flaming palm trees in the southern province of Assiut, blocking the main highway and railway to Cairo to complain of bread shortages. They then drove off the governor by pelting his van with stones. Hundreds of slum dwellers in the Suez Canal city of Port Said set fire to part of the governor's headquarters in anger over lack of housing.

"We are striking and we will protest and we will not negotiate until Mubarak steps down. Whoever wants to threaten us, then let them do so."
ABDUL-RAHMAN SAMIR, SPOKESMAN FOR A COALITION OF YOUTH GROUPS BEHIND PROTESTS IN CAIRO'S TAHRIR SQUARE.

Efforts by Vice-President Omar Suleiman to open a dialogue with protesters over reforms have broken down since the weekend, with youth organizers of the movement deeply suspicious that he plans only superficial changes far short of real democracy. They refuse any talks unless Mubarak steps down first. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

MISSING CHILDREN

Search for twins shifts to Corsica

The search for missing Swiss twins spread to Corsica and southern Italy yesterday, after authorities confirmed the six-year-old girls were on a ferry to the French island four days before their father apparently killed himself in Italy.

Marseille prosecutor Jacques Dallest said Matthias Kaspar Schepp and his daughters boarded a ferry for Propriano, in Corsica, on Jan. 31, but authorities could not confirm that the twins ever left the boat.

But police in southern Italy, meanwhile, interviewed a coffee shop owner who reported seeing a man and his daughters who fit the description of blonde Alessia and Livia sometime last week. The bar is located in the city of Cerignola, where Schepp was found dead Feb. 3. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Man walks into train, walks away

An intoxicated man in Saskatoon strolled right into an oncoming train yesterday, but will live to tell about it.

Police say after the Canadian Pacific freight train clipped the 29-year-old, he was able to get up and walk away.

"We got a call from witnesses who observed a gentleman walking down the Canadian Pacific train tracks," said police Sgt. Ted Sperling. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Plant the finance seed, says report

Task force recommends financial literacy for elementary level

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian schools should start teaching children about managing money as early as elementary grades, says a federal task force on financial literacy.

In a report issued yesterday, the blue ribbon panel concluded that many Canadians are ill prepared for a financial world that is becoming increasingly complex by the year.

And it says education, starting as early as elementary school, is the best way to sow the seeds of knowledge and skills Canadians need to save, invest, buy homes and plan for retirement later in life.

"There's a lot of research that suggests that early adoption of this (education) is quite powerful," said Donald Stewart, the task force chair who is also chief executive of Sun Life Financial.

"We would suggest no later than Grade 10, and if you can fit in pieces of it earlier, studies suggest it would be beneficial."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cheetah. Love

▶ A female cheetah cub clings to lead keeper Lacey Braun for its daily weighing at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Front Royal, Va., yesterday.

JACQUELYN MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brother from another mother

Two cubs were born in December to different mothers, and the male cub was placed with the female cub and her mother, Zazi, as female cheetahs don't produce enough milk when only a single cub is present. The male cub weighed in at 10 pounds, and the female at nine pounds.

Woman dies after buttock injection

Police investigating the death of a British woman who received a cosmetic injection in her buttocks at a hotel near Philadelphia's airport say they've questioned a woman they think set up the appointment online.

Police executed a search warrant Tuesday night at the Bergen County, N.J., home of the woman who is not under arrest.

Authorities are still pursuing a second woman they believe performed the procedure.

The British woman became ill and died Tuesday. She and another woman got injections Monday at the Hampton Inn near the airport.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mom-to-be mistakenly given drug for abortion

A pregnant woman mistakenly given an abortion drug by a pharmacist faces an excruciating wait to find out the fate of her unborn child.

A pharmacist at a Safeway supermarket in Fort Lupton gave Mareena Silva the drug methotrexate last week. The drug, intended for another woman, is used in chemotherapy and to terminate early-stage pregnancies.

Silva, who is six weeks pregnant, told KMGH-TV in Denver that she took a pill and checked the bottle after becoming sick. She was rushed to the hospital.

Doctors say Silva could miscarry or have a baby with birth defects.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Oil	Gold	Dollar
– 108.22 13,784.30	– $0.23 ($86.71 US)	+ $1.40 US ($1,365.50)	+ 0.07¢ ($100.61 US)

TSX boss feels on top of the world

Kloet says linkup with London will 'redefine the global exchange business' But Industry Minister Tony Clement urges caution

Call it a world-beating win-win situation.

A transatlantic union between the biggest stock exchanges in Canada and Britain will create a new force in global finance, the head of the Toronto Stock Exchange said yesterday.

The linkup between TMX Group and the London Stock Exchange will "redefine the global exchange business," chief executive Thomas Kloet added.

But even as the Canadian and British operators planned to join hands, officials at stock exchange operators in New York and Germany announced their own merger talks.

NYSE Euronext and Deutsche Boerse AG said there's no definite deal, but the combination could set up a powerful rivalry between two stock market giants, each with a foot on two continents.

The merger activities continue a years-long trend that has seen smaller regional and national securities markets and commodities markets join together in response to the global nature of their industries.

Meanwhile, Industry Minister Tony Clement said his department will look at the deal to see whether it requires an official review to determine if it's good for Canada — like the one last year in which Clement stopped the $38.6-billion US takeover of fertilizer company PotashCorp by mining giant BHP Billiton.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Xavier Rolet, left, CEO of the London Stock Exchange, shakes hands with Toronto's Thomas Kloet yesterday at a news conference in Toronto.

News in brief

App to help you confess

CONTRITION. Got sins? A new app for the iPhone and the iPad seeks to help Catholics prepare for confession, that sacred ritual of seeking penance for sins big and small.

The $1.99 app then guides you through contrition and offers sample text you can tell a real-life priest. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

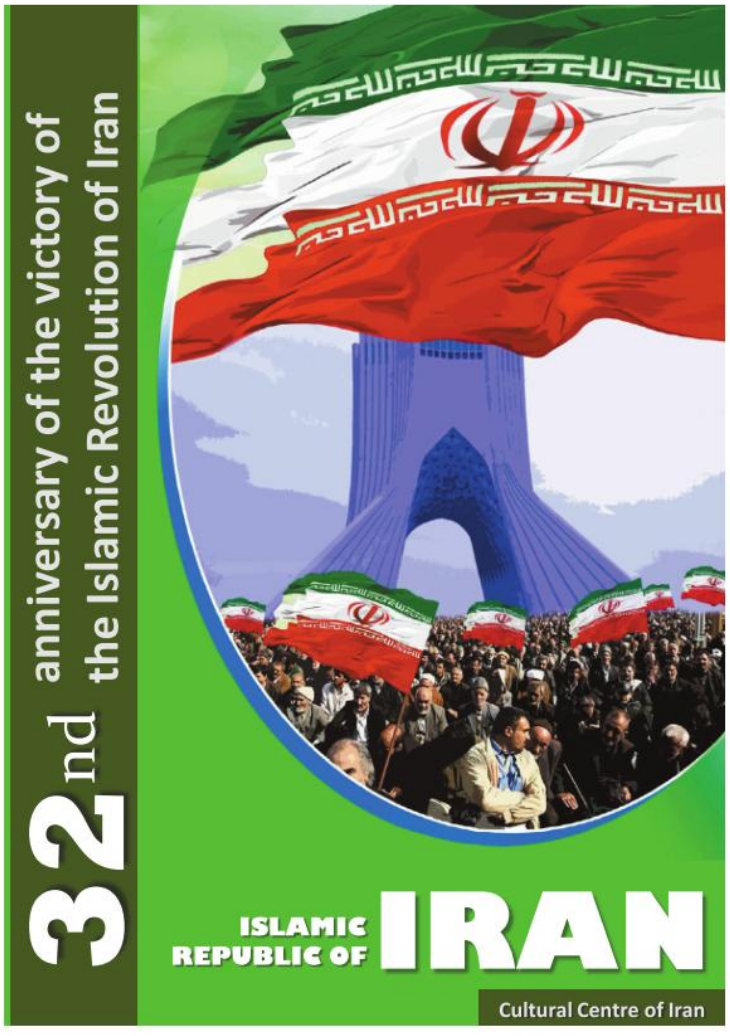
Palm unveils its tablet

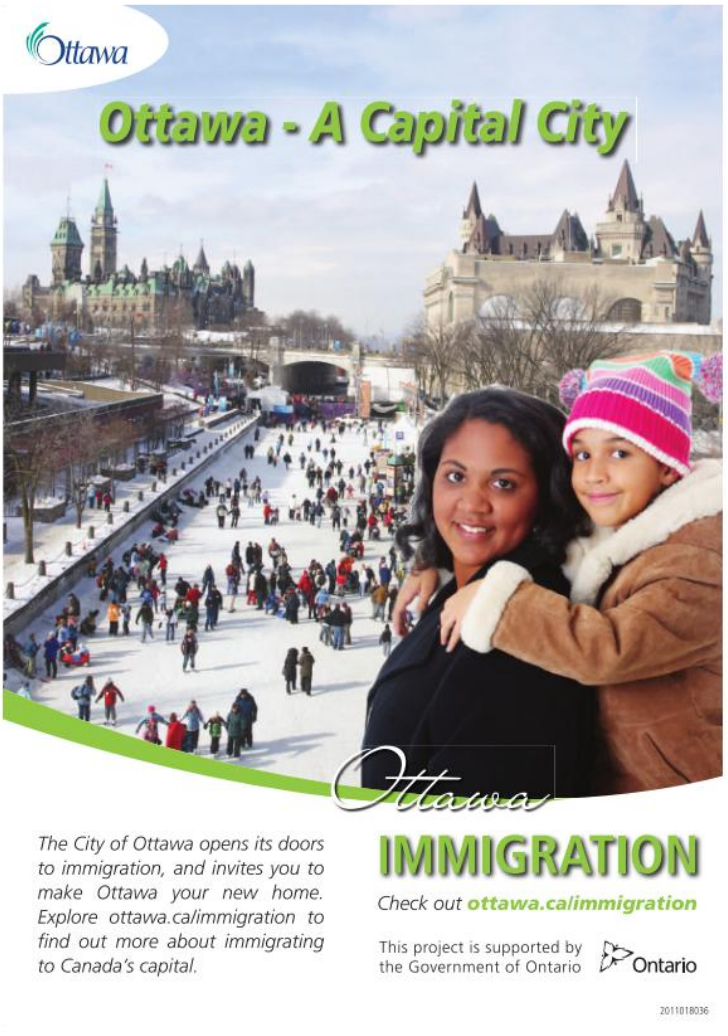
TECHNOLOGY. Smartphone pioneer Palm is releasing its first tablet computer, the TouchPad.

Palm unveiled the device yesterday at a media event in San Francisco. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drinks to get clearer labels

CALORIE COUNTS. It's soon going to be easier to know how many calories you're consuming when you sip a soft drink as a result of an initiative by Canadian non-alcoholic beverage companies. The calorie count will be moved to the front of cans and bottles from the back, and full serving details will be provided on standardized labels. The initiative is called Clear on Calories. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RUN OVER BY A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

He says ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE

Pucker up, lovebirds! (Can birds pucker?)

It's time for Valentine's Day, that love-laden event where, like surgeons, we exchange hearts and hope no blood is spilled. Ever since some guy named Valentine got beaten and lost his head during a time of persecution, we've been celebrating the obvious tie-in with relationships.

It sort of makes you think.

In my case, my feelings toward the day have run as hot and cold as any Harlequin romance.

I hated Valentine's Day when I was young and unlucky in love, replaying every failed relationship in my mind over and over like a little Zapruder film, trying to decipher exactly what happened.

I loved Valentine's Day when I was engaged to be married, my love life as overflowing as Pamela Anderson in a "C" cup (you see how romance and poetry permeated every fibre of my being).

Now that I'm divorced, it would be fair to assume I hate the day again, ready to tell the world where it can put Cupid's arrow.

"... my feelings toward (Valentine's Day) have run as hot and cold as any Harlequin romance."

But you would be wrong. Mostly, I feel nothing — not jaded, joyless nothing, just nothing. I feel like I've been through enough in my life that no day can instruct me how to feel, good or ill.

I remember crushing on Nicole Boudreau in Grade 4 and changing the words of Christmas In Killarney so it went, "It's nice, you know, to kiss Boudreau, while cuddling under the mistletoe."

I remember my first love with Julie, a relationship so overwrought with tender, naive passion that Justin Bieber would have gagged.

I remember getting so infatuated with Cora in my early 20s that every song on the radio had added romantic weight, even if it was a jingle about toilet bowl cleaner.

I remember kissing my future wife in the rain.

And that's just the positive stuff. I've been run over by the streetcar named desire more times than I can count. I've been single, taken, engaged, married, divorced, exalted, ecstatic and enraged.

I'm not unique, by any means. But the day seems irrelevant to me. Valentine's Day can't move me or hurt me any more than Halloween can scare me or Labour Day can convince me to get a union card.

I'm just glad to know that there will be more times in my life — day unknown — when I'll go sappy, lose sleep, lose weight, feel sick to my stomach, and be scared. After all, that's what true happiness is about.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Penny for your thoughts

Letters & Tweets

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty spoke darkly on the penny's future this week and the coin's days appear numbered. Surely, the first currency most of us ever saved enough to roll deserves a warm send-off, so we asked you for your obituaries and tributes.

@lexiebexson: Due to cutbacks in the economy, the penny is now pennyless. It's been nickel-and-dimed to death.

@wilcre: Pennies, they corroded their way in. Now oxidized from us, rest my friend, you won't be forgotten for the next "DOT," 1858–?

@chelsea_mac1: The penny will be missed by all. Specifically by stores that will no longer be able to use $0.99 as their pricing strategies.

@toothpickgirl: RIP penny — you had great cents.

@stevehalifax: I guess the price of a "thought" jumps to five cents now!

@trevorboller: Canada loses all intelligence due to no more penny for your thoughts.

And here are a few dissenters, for whom the penny will be anything but missed.

@go2plan_b: Personally, I'll be glad to be rid of the penny.

@dev0kan: Good riddance. Pennies smell bad and cost more to make than the $0.01 that they're worth.

You had great cents

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

What's your Friday ritual to unwind from the week?

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Metro Minute at Oscar Wilde play

Get Wilde at the Gladstone for opening night of Plosive Productions' The Importance Of Being Earnest, directed by David Whitely. This rollicking new production of Oscar Wilde's comedy moves the action to colonial India in the 1920s, a setting that underscores the frivolous nature of the ruling class of the era and presents the opportunity to inject some sub-continental colour and warmth into the Ottawa winter. Katie Bunting, Sean Conforti, Teri Rata Loretto, Stewart Matthews, Kel Parsons, Garret Quirk, Chris Ralph, Henna Kaur Sodhi, and Bronwyn Steinberg star. Tickets are $38 for adults, $33 for seniors and $23 for students.

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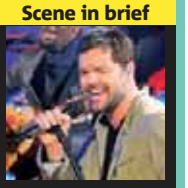
CONTRIBUTED

▶ Plosive Productions presents The Importance Of Being Earnest at the Gladstone.

2 scene

Scene in brief



The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is honouring Ricky Martin. The organization announced yesterday that Martin will receive the Vito Russo Award at GLAAD's 22nd annual Media Awards on March 19 in New York City. The award is presented to an openly LGBT media professional who made a significant difference in promoting equal rights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Elvis Presley Enterprises sues for copyright infringement, illegal sale of box set

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Rob VanWinkle, also known as rapper Vanilla Ice, has a new reality show on the DIY Network where he flips homes for a profit.

There is no cooling down Vanilla Ice

Rapper turned TV star VanWinkle shows off his real estate skills in new reality show

Rapper Vanilla Ice says his '90s hit, Ice, Ice Baby, shows no signs of cooling off.

The 43-year-old former pop star, also known as Rob VanWinkle, says it's a "timeless hit" that is enjoying a resurgence thanks to a reboot he did with Irish twins known as Jedward.

"(In the) past eight months I've sold three million records," boasts VanWinkle, noting the novelty single Under Pressure (Ice Ice Baby) topped charts overseas while his 20-year-old debut album To The Extreme sold one million copies last year.

"I'm totally shocked about it myself."

It came as VanWinkle returns to the spotlight on both sides of the pond — as a contestant on the televised celebrity competition Dancing on Ice, in the U.K., and as a rock star home renovator on DIY Network Canada this weekend.

It's been more than 20 years since VanWinkle released his breakout single, and although he still tours (last fall he hit South Africa with MC Hammer and SNAP) he's reinvented himself several times as a jet ski racer, sports retailer and motocross aficionado.

Throughout, he says he also fashioned himself into a pretty savvy property expert, developing his own home building company, mortgage company and a real estate company.

VanWinkle estimates he's flipped 100 houses over the past 15 years.

His new TV show, The Vanilla Ice Project, is a far cry from the outrageous shenanigans of his 2004 reality series, The Surreal Life.

The first episode shows VanWinkle and his crew arriving at an abandoned six bedroom, 650-square-metre lakefront mansion in Palm Beach, Fla., assessing the damage and coming up with a plan to add "the rock star touch."

He says he just sold the property two weeks ago for $150,000 over the appraised value.

"I did great," he says, slipping easily into a quick lesson on short sale foreclosures and tax lien properties.

The Vanilla Ice Project debuts on DIY on Sunday. DIY Network Canada will be on free preview throughout February.

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5 anti-Valentine's flicks

Everyone watches the standard romantic comedies on Valentine's Day, so why not try something a bit different Romance and loves comes in all shapes and sizes in Hollywood

Anyone can run out and rent a romantic comedy starring Julia Roberts for Valentine's Day. Anyone can stream the latest innocuous offering from Drew Barrymore — or Jennifer Aniston, or Kate Hudson.

But it requires real guts to sit down with that special fellow or lady in your life and take in one of these massively uncomfortable choices. So here, without any needless flowery language, are the five most inappropriate movies to watch with someone you love on Valentine's Day.

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Blue Velvet (1986)

Nothing is ever what it seems in a David Lynch movie, and that certainly applies to love, as well. So a severed ear found lying in a field is so much more than just a severed ear — it's the key to a disturbing, underground world of twisted romance. Beneath a veneer of genteel suburbia, Kyle MacLachlan gets sucked into the bizarre lives of Dennis Hopper as a nitrous oxide-addicted criminal, and Isabella Rossellini as his masochistic sexual slave. Voyeurism and depravity, Roy Orbison and Pabst Blue Ribbon all collide hypnotically here. Lynch alternates between glib satire and a much darker, starker exploration of secret fears and desires.

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (1966)

Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor chew up the scenery and tear each other apart as the boozy and bickering husband and wife George and Martha. In adapting Edward Albee's painfully honest play, director Mike Nichols burst onto the scene with this, his first feature (The Graduate came the following year).

He gets up close and personal to provide an intimate view of the carnage. Burton and Taylor start out slyly needling each other in front of their poor, unsuspecting guests, then humiliating each other, and by the end, they're threatening all-out war. That they were married to each other in real life — for the first time — only added to the intrigue. Nominated for 13 Academy Awards, it won five, including best actress for Taylor's scathing performance.

Closer (2004)

Another from Nichols, this time adapting a London stage production by playwright-screenwriter Patrick Marber. But it's reminiscent of Virginia Woolf for its intense performances and raw emotions.

Jude Law, Natalie Portman, Clive Owen and, yes, Julia Roberts fall giddily in love with each other, but don't be fooled: This is the furthest thing possible from a date movie.

These inordinately beautiful people do extraordinarily ugly things to one another — Portman, playing a stripper in her first truly grown-up role, commits some of her offences in little more than a G-string — and the way they destroy each other and themselves is both brutal and breathtaking to watch.

Natural Born Killers (1994)

Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis fall in love and kill people, and fall deeper in love and kill more people, and become media darlings in the process.

It's sort of romantic ... in its own way. Oliver Stone isn't exactly subtle in his satirical exploration of underserved fame and all its trappings; as is his tendency, he throws everything at us, from various film stocks and frenetic camera angles to an editing style that suggests he cut the film in a Cuisinart. But he was onto something back then, and the thirst for juicy scandal continues to go unquenched, no matter how questionable a person's actions are.

Fatal Attraction (1987)

It's long since become a shorthand for stalking — for crazy, clingy women who are too delusional to take "no" for an answer. All you have to do is mention boiling a bunny and everyone knows what you're talking about.

But back in its day, believe it or not, people actually took this movie seriously as a suspenseful thriller. It was nominated for six Academy Awards, including best picture and best actress for Glenn Close. If director Adrian Lyne's sleek, steamy film has taught us anything, it's that it is so much easier to stick with your husband or wife than indulge in an afternoon tryst. So maybe this is a good movie to see with the one you love after all.

David among Goliaths

- Arcade Fire find themselves going up against giant acts at Grammy's
- Bookies see their odds improving

HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Arcade Fire will be competing against the likes of Eminem and Lady Gaga for album of the year at this weekend's Grammy Awards.

It's certainly been a while since the Arcade Fire has been cast as the underdog.

The Montreal rockers' third album, The Suburbs, surfed a tide of critical superlatives to hit No. 1 on the chart in countries around the world upon its release last summer. Headlining gigs at Madison Square Garden followed, as well as a memorable performance on Saturday Night Live and the announcement of more high-profile gigs, including a marquee spot at this spring's Coachella Festival.

"I actually looked at the London bookie numbers and we have nine-to-two odds of winning."
WILL BUTLER

The little band that could suddenly didn't seem so little. Three nominations at this weekend's Grammys followed, including a nod for the evening's top prize: album of the year.

However, up against the likes of leading nominee Eminem, Katy Perry, Lady Gaga and country stars Lady Antebellum, Arcade Fire once again look every bit the upstart challenger — the David among Goliaths, as Entertainment Weekly called them in a recent issue.

But the band isn't having it. They think they have a shot at winning.

"We definitely have a chance," said multi-instrumentalist Will Butler in a recent telephone interview.

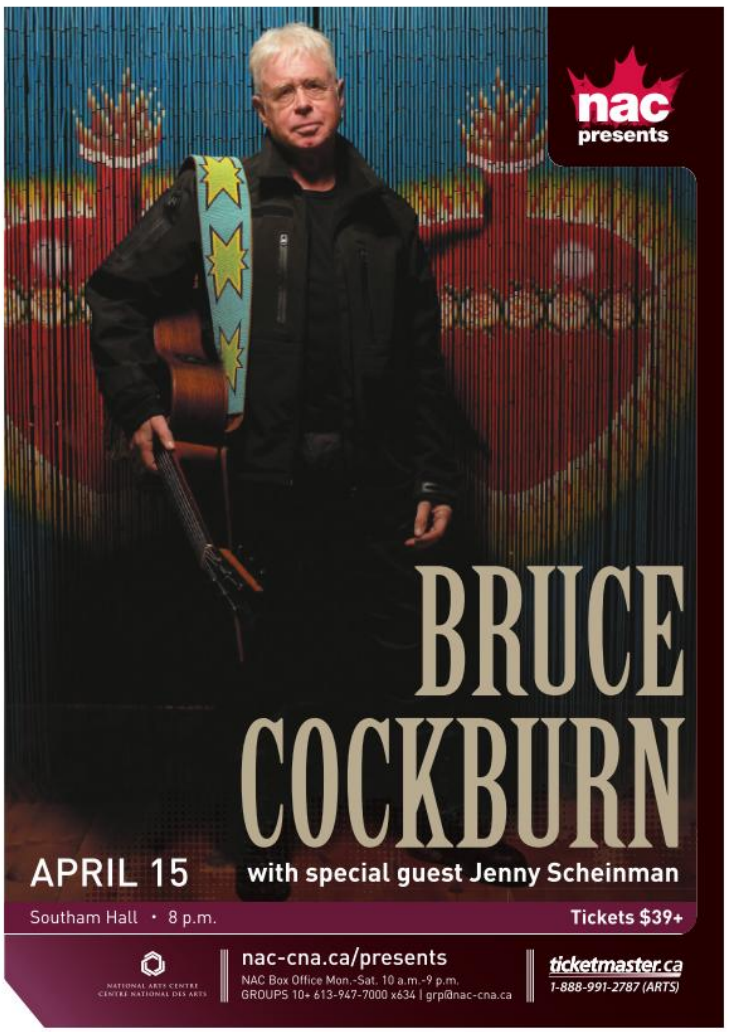
"I actually looked at the London bookie numbers and we have nine-to-two odds of winning.

"They take their gambling pretty seriously. I checked when we were first nominated and we had a 10-to-one shot. I guess we're on the move."

That has certainly been the case for the past year, one in which Arcade Fire cemented its status as one of the top rock bands in the world.

For the record, as of Tuesday, Sportsbook.com listed Arcade Fire as having a four-to-one shot at claiming the album of the year award, tied with Gaga. Eminem, the evening's top nominee with 10 nods, is the favourite.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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▶ Singer Rosanne Cash performs in Berlin, Germany

Walking the line

Nominated for a Grammy, Cash speaks about her legendary father and the huge popularity of The List

With a bestselling memoir and an album that never seemed to stop resonating with fans, Rosanne Cash celebrated the end of 2010 with a long break full of restful sleep.

This year seems no better, though. She's up for a Grammy Award for The List, her tribute to her iconic father, Johnny Cash; she's writing songs with Rhett Miller of the Old 97's, Joe Henry and by herself in anticipation of a new album; and she'll join Henry and Billy Bragg in the studio in March for another new project.

She's also planning to tour this year and is taking notes for a follow-up to her highly regarded memoir, Composed, which earned spots on the best of lists of Publisher's Weekly, Kirkus Reviews and Amazon.com.

"So I still have a lot of work ahead of me," Cash said. "I'm looking for more sleep. Maybe in 2012."

Did the enduring success of The List, your recording of your father's list to you of must-listen-to songs, catch you off-guard?

It did. I'm certainly not a big radio artist. In fact, it's hard to garner a lot of radio play for anybody working in my genre at my age. So I knew I couldn't count on that. So then it's, how do I sell this record without a lot of radio play, and it was a challenge for the marketing team to figure out how to present it. But there was a great back story to it and people were interested, and there was more interest in The List than I expected. I thought, 'Oh, this will be a quiet thing and some people will appreciate it.' It did very well, and it was satisfying to me, but I have to admit truthfully, it was a little jarring that I felt like my biggest success in a long time are songs that I didn't write. It shook me a little bit.

Have you made plans to release the entire list to the public?

No, I haven't and I'm not ready to. So much of my dad has been co-opted by the public and this was such a personal thing to me. And I'm just not ready to post it on the Internet or something, you know what I mean? I want to hang on to it for a little while. ... Eventually it should be archived properly, but right now it's mine.

Do you plan to cull another album from the list?

Yeah, I think so. There's certainly a wealth of material and it makes sense. People ask me about that all the time. So I think I would.

Your memoir was very well received. Do your writing ideas come from the same place as your songwriting ideas?

Oh, sure. And if I were a painter it would come from the same place, or a ballet dancer. I think that creative impulse can have a lot of different mediums.

Is it easier to share personal things because you've done it for decades in song?

Cash: That was a different experience as far as revelation or the feeling of revelation, anyway, because in songs, even though people think my songs are all confessional, they're not really. I know where I took poetic license. And there was certainly no fact checker at the end of the songs. But writing in the book I did feel a responsibility to the facts as I remember them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grammy Awards

Rosanne Cash is up for a Grammy Award for The List, her tribute to her iconic father, Johnny Cash

Award show The Grammy Awards will air live on CBS from the Staples Center in Los Angeles on Sunday (8 p.m. EST).

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There will be no revenge, but Helms is a nerd

Funny man Ed Helms on his first role as a leading man Why he likes to play nerds (hint: he is one)

NED EHRBAR
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METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Ed Helms would have you believe that he's nothing like the sweetly innocent nerds he's played in The Hangover, The Office and most recently in Miguel Arteta's Cedar Rapids. But as he gets settled into a hotel room on New York's Fifth Avenue, jumping up to open all the shades to let sunlight in, it's obvious that he's every bit the loveable geek that he plays on the big and small screens.

"I had a heart condition as a teenager and my doctor was like, 'If you ever do cocaine, you could die,' so that instantly sealed my fate as a nerd," says Helms.

He's referencing a scene in Cedar Rapids where as button-up insurance agent Tim Lippe, he finds himself at a backwoods meth party. Tim's an earnest, sheltered man whose trip to an insurance convention in the titular location is nothing short of an emotional and intellectual awakening. It's that unworldly naivety that draws Helms to these sorts of characters.

"I am a genuinely naïve person," Helms says sarcastically. "No, I don't think I mean as much as Tim Lippe, although I wish I did more often. But I envy that idealism and optimism.

Ed Helms

One person who is trying hard is the Nard-dog, whom Helms says would be eager to take over Michael Scott's role at Dunder-Mifflin once Steve Carrell leaves The Office at the end of this season.

Quote "I know Andy is desperate to replace Michael Scott but what I want is for Andy to be in the most frustrating predicament possible because that's usually where he's the funniest," he says. "I know that Andy wants the job, but so do a lot of people in that office. I'm not really worried about how things are going to shake out because I think it will be fun for everybody."

HANDOUT

▶ There is no denying it — Ed Helms is a nerd.

Tim has such faith in people and most of us who have been around for a while have lost a bit of that."

But is the real Ed Helms anything like, say, his character Andy "Nard-dog" Bernard from The Office? The two share a love of a capella, after all.

"Oh you're trying to get at me, like who am I compared to these guys?" he asks. "Well I think like a lot of people, I try to do the right thing most of the time but I mess up a hell of a lot and maybe sometimes I don't try hard enough."

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HANDOUT

▶ Javier Bardem stars in Biutiful

A Biutiful mind

Bardem speaks about working with a great director

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Oscar-winner Javier Bardem spent five months in the Barcelona slums filming Biutiful, in which he stars as Uxbal, a single father and undocumented worker-wrangler who can also commune with the recently deceased. It didn't exactly make for a light workload, but for Bardem it was worth it just to team up with writer and director Alejandro González Iñárritu (Amores Perros, 21 Grams, Babel).

What attracted you to the project?
Many things. The director, Alejandro — I'm a huge fan of his previous works, and I knew he was going to be an amazing actors' director based on the performances that I saw in his movies.

But more important than that, because I'm not the kind of actor that gets crazy with names, was the material. The script, beautifully written by him, and the character, which is very complex. There were so many layers to convey that I knew it was going to be a hard task, but a rewarding one.

How was working with Iñárritu?
He is one of the greatest directors of all time. That's what I meant by an actors' director. You can tear apart your heart, but if the camera is not in the right place, it doesn't matter. He knows where to put the camera. He knows how to hold a silence, he knows how to put the music in the right place. He knows where to cut. And that helps you have the best of your performance out there.

> **"I knew he was going to be an amazing actors' director"**
> JAVIER BARDEM

Did the role make you see life and death any differently?
No, not really. The good thing about being an actor, the gift of being an actor is that you are forced — beautifully forced, we choose to be forced — to see the world with different eyes. You cannot get attached to what that character feels about an issue.

You have to put yourself away and be him. It's not you. So it never changes my idea of death. But this being said, we all understand things intellectually. We see the news, we read the papers, we see people on the street and we understand the world. The actor has the obligation to experience it. It's not that I know how it feels, but I know that experience in a very emotional way, which is different from knowing intellectually.

Given how much of Biutiful focuses on people living in the shadows of Barcelona life? Has the experience of making this movie changed the way you look at cities?
I try to be up when I go to places to see different sides. In L.A. it's difficult because every time I come here it's like an office. I come here to work and I go back home. So I see the L.A. that we all know. But sometimes I get to get to Downtown and see the other L.A. that is not in the papers here, but not in the papers around the world. With Barcelona it was the same. Spain is my country, and I smell things in a different way because I know the language, I know the culture, I know the place.

And I knew about all those things, but it wasn't until I got the chance to be in those situations with those people, in those real places, that the experience of being conscious of something transcended an intellectual aspect of it. It goes to an emotional level. It's like, we all understand how bad it could be. Well, until the moment you are there, when you feel it, you go, like, 'F—, this is bad.' Or good. Like how good it could be to be a millionaire. Then you win the lottery and you're a millionaire, and then you're f—ed.

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▶ The mini-series The Kennedys was picked up by The Reelz Channel after being dropped by the History Channel in the U.S.

Kennedys happy with new home

Controversial mini-series was dropped after family members complained Canadian producer blasts History Channel for decision

The Canadian producer of a beleaguered TV miniseries about the Kennedy clan says its new U.S. broadcaster is backed by a "really strong family ... independent of any kind of outside influence."

Roughly one month after the U.S. History Channel dropped The Kennedys from its schedule, Michael Prupas says he's pleased to see it land with the lesser known digital outlet Reelz Channel. The $30-million series was slated to be History's first scripted program, which the cable outlet commissioned and helped finance with Prupas' Muse Entertainment, of Montreal.

But the channel suddenly dropped the Toronto-shot drama from its schedule amid suggestions Kennedy family members and supporters were unhappy with the project.

Prupas says he's never heard complaints from the clan but notes the project had been dogged by political critics, chiefly Liberal filmmaker Robert Greenwald, who spearheaded a petition last year to shut down production.

All the attention has fuelled a flurry of media coverage, Prupas says, adding that he recently inked two more broadcast deals in Israel, Belgium and Serbia, on top of existing deals around the world.

The series stars Greg Kinnear as John Kennedy, Barry Pepper as Bobby Kennedy and Katie Holmes as Jackie Kennedy.

It airs as a four-part miniseries in Canada on History Television on April 10 and as an eight-part series on Reelz Channel on April 3.

"The Reelz Channel is led by a really strong family ... they're independent of any kind outside influence and are prepared to stand up and be counted and try to make the best possible promotion of the show that they possibly can."
MICHAEL PRUPAS

The Albuquerque-based digital outlet, available in more than 56 million U.S. homes, mostly airs Hollywood theatrical movies, and Prupas admits the Kennedy controversy serves well to enhance the upstart's profile. Still, he said the benefits go both ways, alluding to allegations the Kennedy dynasty intervened in the History airing.

"The Reelz Channel is led by a really strong family ... they're independent of any kind outside influence and are prepared to stand up and be counted and try to make the best possible promotion of the show that they possibly can," Prupas said from New York, where he was promoting the series.

Prupas traces the trouble back as far as last winter, when Greenwald got a copy of an early version of the script that included scenes of John Kennedy's sexual interests.

"Big surprise for everybody that he actually had extra-marital affairs," Prupas says sarcastically. Prupas expressed disappointment that History Channel did not stand by the project. "They knew that they weren't doing a documentary. This was their first venture into scripted history programming," he says.

"They knew that we had historians who had verified the history and were obviously (collapsing) 40 years into eight hours. We were obviously eavesdropping on conversations that we could never have (heard) in terms of creating dialogue. We were therefore creating dramatic thrust that everybody was aware of when we wrote the scripts."

Prupas says the project "was heavily vetted" with "every line" reviewed by a team of legal experts and historians.

"The events that we describe actually did happen. So the fact that they didn't happen the day that we say they happened, is that taking too much of a liberty? I don't think so."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Miller and Law off-again, again

Source says stars ending their seven year relationship Is it for good?

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Jude Law and Sienna Miller have split after seven years of on-again, off-again status, according to Hollyscoop.

"It is mutual and amicable, and they are still friends," a source says. "It was an entirely an end-of-the relationship decision. It had run its course."

And while the pair had recently been apartment shopping and courting wedding rumors, even Law's rep acknowledges that the union is done.

"I can confirm that Jude Law and Sienna Miller are no longer in a relationship."

METRO

"It was an entirely an end-of-the relationship decision. It had run its course"
SOURCE

Aniston insists she is very happy

Jennifer Aniston says she's well aware of what people's biggest misconception of her is — that she is somehow unhappy.

"That I'm unhappy. I'm really happy. Really," she tells People magazine.

The former Friends star is getting a little tired of the public's expectations for her personal life.

"I think people honestly just want to see me as a mom and married and barefoot and pregnant in the kitchen," she says.

"And I just want to say, 'Everybody, relax! It's going to happen.'"

METRO

"I think people honestly just want to see me as a mom and married and barefoot and pregnant in the kitchen"
JENNIFER ANISTON

Miley dating her latest co-star?

Miley Cyrus is reportedly getting close with her latest co-star, actor and former rugby player Josh Bowman, who previously dated Amy Winehouse, according to People magazine.

"They're definitely dating. It's legit," a source says, though another source close to the former Hannah Montana star begs to differ.

"Miley is single. They're not dating. They're just friends." METRO

"They're definitely dating. It's legit"
SOURCE

Talking points

Aguilera looks to bounce back

PEOPLE After her embarrassing gaffe at the Super Bowl, Christina Aguilera is banking on a tribute to Aretha Franklin at the Grammys this weekend to provide her with a little redemption, according to Popeater.

"This is a huge night for Christina, so she's leaving nothing to chance," a source says. "All the lyrics to her number will be in a TelePrompter at the event so it will be almost impossible for her to mess up again.

METRO

Olivia goes back into the Wilde

PEOPLE After eight years of marriage, Olivia Wilde and Italian prince Tao Ruspoli have called it quits, according to People magazine.

The couple married when Wilde was still in her teens.

"They have been living apart after trying for quite some time to make their relationship work," a source says of the couple.

Wilde's rep confirmed the split but did not provide further details.

METRO

Celebrity tweets

Howard Stern [@Howard-Stern] I'm liking twitter. Just filed the papers to divorce my face book.

Stephen Fry [@stephen-fry] Amazing how many of you failed to see the letter "i" in the word recital.... tsk tsk

Sandra Bernhard [@Sandra-Bernhard] up in london press day, might swing by manolo blahnik and say hi to kids. nab a pair of heels duckey!

Tom Arnold [@Tom-Arnold] Enough piling on...I think it's time we leave @lindsaylohan alone!

METRO

Perry looking for marriage counsellor

PEOPLE Katy Perry is enjoying success as a singer at the moment, but she says her marriage to Russell Brand takes precedence.

"I think some people will die on the stage, and I'm not so sure I want to do that. Like, I want to have kids," Perry tells Elle magazine.

"I'm totally fine with saying that. I think some people are scared because they're worried it's going to ruin their career, but I want to live a full life."

But first, she and her new husband may have some issues to address, according to a source who tells Life & Style that Perry "started asking friends to recommend a marriage counsellor" while planning for her upcoming tour.

METRO

3 life

The connection

THE PUBLICISTS: (Kelly Cutrone)

Having dinner at Da Giacomo in Milan, aka the fashion cafeteria

THE EDITORS: (Robin Givhan)

Front row at the Marc Jacobs show in New York

A showroom appointment to "re-see" that Celine collection in Paris

THE BUYERS: (Yasmin Sewell)

Jewellery made to inspire her beyond Valentine's Day.

New York Fashion Week kicks off today, igniting a calendar of garment-geared events throughout the world ◆ Get to know some of the dames you'll be dealing with as the month-long fashion onslaught begins

A guide to fashion's five ferocious tribes

KENYA HUNT
METRO WORLD NEWS

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Tavi

THE BLOGGERATI

Most popular members: Bryanboy, Tavi, Garance Doré, Jak & Jil's Tommy Ton, Hanneli Mustaparta
Key traits: A fun-loving crew, the bloggers are like one big group of friends rather than competitors. They're the ones who are actually smiling and having fun at the shows, partly because they're just happy to be there.
Where to spot them: On the street waiting for a show to end or in the front row.
Tribes-within-a-tribe: The street-style bloggers, who take pictures of others, versus the personal-style bloggers, who take pictures of themselves.

MAURIZIO MAULE

▶ Anna Wintour

THE EDITRIXES

Most popular members: Anna Wintour, Franca Sozzani, Suzy Menkes, Cathy Horyn, Robin Givhan, Anna dello Russo
Key traits: The designers set the trends, but these powerful women influence whether or not everyday shoppers will buy them.
Where to spot them: Sitting expressionless at the centre of the front row, usually being interviewed, videotaped and photographed by a throng of reporters and cameramen.
Tribes-within-a-tribe: The magazine editors wield a different kind of power from the newspaper writers, and there isn't a whole lot of mixing between the two.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Lindsey Wixson

THE RUNWAY STARS

Most popular members: Freja Beha Erichsen, Karlie Kloss, Joan Smalls, Rose Cordero and Lindsey Wixson
Key traits: They're the impossibly tall, leggy peripatetic creatures travelling in twos and threes between shows with their runway hair and makeup still on.
Where to spot them: Running out of the backstage entrance at any show venue into a taxi or chauffeured car.
Tribes-within-a-tribe: There are the girls of the moment (the models who walk in every show and star in the big ad campaigns) and then there are the new arrivals, the young, new-on-the-scene girls who are hoping to get there.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Natalie Massanet

THE RETAIL QUEENS

Most popular members: Net-A-Porter Natalie Massenet, Lane Crawford's Sarah Rutson, Liberty of London's Yasmin Sewell and Harrods' Marigay McKee
Key traits: They usually have the nicest chauffeured cars and most of-the-moment accessories.
Where to spot them: Heading into a show with a trail of street style photographers hot on their embellished, colour blocked designer heels.
Tribes-within-a-tribe: The fashion directors of brick-and-mortar shops have always commanded the most attention. But these days, the women and men behind the e-commerce sites, such as ASOS, are becoming more high-profile.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Karla Otto

THE PUBLICISTS

Most popular members: Karla Otto, BPCM's Vanessa Bismarck and People's Revolution's Kelly Cutrone
Key traits: A clipboard in hand, an earphone cord around the neck and an extremely low tolerance for bollocks.
Where to spot them: Cutting that gate crasher down to size.
Tribes-within-a-tribe: Fashion publicists the world over are a tough breed, but the New York tribe is especially scary.

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• CoverGirl & Olay Simply Ageless Serum Primer has Olay Regenerist skincare in the mix. $19; covergirl.ca

• FusionBeauty PrimeResults Acne Control Primer is tinted to veil redness and helps keep skin clear with salicylic acid. $45; fusionbeauty.com

True Blood

There's a new injectable cosmetic filler in town, derived from the patient's blood. Selphyl uses blood platelets to plump up deep wrinkles and crevices, and promote healing. All it takes is less than a teaspoon of blood and 20 minutes in a doc's office. Full results are visible in three weeks and can last more than a year. selphyl.ca

Grow Op

Prescription lash booster Latisse is now available in Canada. It delivers longer and fatter lashes in 16 weeks of daily use by prolonging the growth phase. Claire Danes is both a fan and spokesperson. See your dermatologist for more info. $150; latisse.com

THE KIT is an amazing new digital beauty magazine offering great tips to help you look and feel your best. Subscribe for FREE at thekit.ca.

NYFW newbies

Introducing New York Fashion Week's newest talents

CONTRIBUTED

THE LAKE AND STARS

What to expect: Lingerie and swimwear duo Nikki Dekker and Maayan Zilberman have been a cult favourite for a while now thanks to their undergarments that are so contemporary and cool that they demand to be shown off. But with an Ecco Domani award in the bag, they'll surely be broadening their fanbase.
thelakeandstars.com

CONTRIBUTED

KINDER AGGUGINI

What to expect: Already a fashion darling in London, Aggugini is finally crossing the waters over to New York. He worked for Vivienne Westwood and John Galliano and describes his own line as "Coco Chanel marries Sid Vicious." That means you can expect nothing other than heaps of attitude and hopefully a little bit of provocation.
aggugini.com

CONTRIBUTED

JOY CIOCI

What to expect: Cioci's impeccable resumé leaves a very narrow margin for mistakes – not that we're expecting any. Clean, feminine, modern and fresh, her style reflects her time spent at luxury brands Nina Ricci, Gucci and Carolina Herrera.
joycioci.com

ROMINA MCGUINNESS

In five words or less

New York designers list their inspiration for their Autumn/Winter 2011 collections

Catherine Malandrino
"What is Parisian?"

Jenny Packham
"Whimsical party decadence."

Yigal Azrouel
"The confluence of menswear and womenswear."

Maz Azaria
"Timeless tailoring and rich textures."

KENYA HUNT

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Here in the frozen north, Valentine's Day requires an extra measure of resourcefulness

GIFTS FOR HIM

Touch me
A Be Mine gift box from Lush ($44.95) makes your intentions plain. It contains an assortment of heavenly bath products and a massage bar that you can show him how to use. Add sexy silk boxers ($10, Wal-Mart) because men need pampering too.

Cool runners
Runners don't care that it's cold out, as long as they have a stretch of clear road to cover. Give your guy a pair of super-comfortable and supporting Nike Free Run+ shoes ($119.95, nike.com) and a subscription to Canadian Running (runningmagazine.ca).

Mad men
He's your own Don Draper, so gift him with a bottle of Canada's own whisky (Wiser's, $24.45) and all the accoutrements (ice bucket, rocks glass). If you want to dress up in a tight skirt and heels to complete the mood, so much the better.

Smooth operator
Present him with a playlist of romantic tunes on a new iPod nano ($159, Wal-Mart), and slip in a song written and performed by you! That's right. You don't have to be Lady Gaga to croon and whisper a heartfelt love pledge, sung a capella.

Modern retro
Every so often, the classics need a twist. This Timex Originals retro '70s-style timepiece ($75, The Bay) is spare and hipster cool, while Ralph Lauren, the fragrance they all wore in high school, is all grown up in Big Pony #2 — a smoldery scent that contains the allure of dark chocolate — perfect for Valentines.

Picture this
Digital is cold, analog is warm. Take a romantic stroll together through neighbourhoods where you normally only drive and record your journey on a Lomography analog camera. That's right, it uses film. (Lomogoraphy Diana mini, $105, Urban Outfitters). Voilà — not quite instant memories.

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3 VALENTINE'S DAY GIFTS FOR TWO

La dolce vita
Romantic couples get down for some fireside picnicking on this Grossby sheepskin rug (Ikea, $189). Add some cheese and a bottle of red and you're set.

Cottage in the woods
A cottage, two pairs of snowshoes and an intimate "après ski" by a roaring fire might just be Cupid's Ultimate Canuck Getaway.

Coffee time
Stay at home, curl up with a good book and create your favourite café ambience. We suggest Nescafé Dolce Gusto Circolo by Krups ($179.99).

Conjure blissful schemes to get warm and snuggly with your special someone. Here's how:

GIFTS FOR HER

Simply red
A beautiful red Kristina handbag ($268, Roots) says Valentines and adds much-needed colour to a wintry wardrobe. Oh, and if you fill it with chocolates, it becomes the perfect gift for any female.

Vampire lover
If she has the release date for Breaking Dawn circled on her calendar and worships Elena on TV's Vampire Diaries, give her a moody but glam piece, like a cropped black leather jacket ($399, Danier) or a vaguely goth sword pendant from Thomas Sabo ($89, Thomassabo.com for stores).

Sweets for your sweet
It's a classic: A Red Velvet Heart box from Canada's own Rogers Chocolates ($49.99, rogerschocolates.com for locations). If you're feeling inspired, hide a hand-written love note under all the pleated paper cups.

Valentines, Vegas-style
Can't make it to Vegas, baby? Have a swinging Valentines at home with Playboy Play it Sexy eau de cologne ($25, major drug stores) and these frou frou delicates from La Vie en Rose (heart print bra, $32.95; thong $15.95, lavieenrose.com).

Pampered princess
For the product junkie, stuff a cute heart-adorned wristlet ($7.99, Quo at Shoppers Drug Mart) with the latest pink and red beauty treats: Physician's Formula Happy Booster blush ($15.99) and Essie nail colour in Silken Cord ($9.99), both available at major drug stores nationwide.

Share the love
This beautiful artisan-crafted Maasai glass bead ring from Me To We adorns your loved one's finger and provides alternative income in a developing community (Maasai Heart Ring sold as a set with Penda Love Chain glass bead necklace for $21.99, at metowe.com).

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Valentine's Day decor

Here's how to make a trio of heart-shaped pom-poms:

HOLLY RAMER/AP PHOTO

▶ Handmade pom-poms

Materials:

- yarn, wool roving or T-shirt fabric
- cardboard
- scissors
- embroidery thread and needle
- ribbon

1. Make two donut-shaped cardboard templates. They can be any size. (I traced around an old CD to get the outer diameter of my templates and a small bottle of paint to get the inner circle.) Cut a chunk out of each template.

2. Cut a piece of embroidery thread about 20 cm long and lay it over one of the templates. Place the other template on top, sandwiching the thread, with the ends of the thread hanging out the cut edges.

3. If using T-shirt fabric, cut it into 1 cm strips. If using wool roving, gently pull it apart into 1 cm strips. Starting at one end, wrap the fabric, roving or yarn around the template until you get to the other end. If the fabric or roving runs out, just add another strip, covering up the end of the previous strip.

4. Repeat until you have at least three layers of fabric wrapped around the templates.

5. Loosely tie the embroidery thread ends that are hanging from the template together. Holding the templates together with one hand, use sharp scissors to cut through the yarn, fabric or roving along the outside diameter of the template, wedging the tips of the scissors in between the two cardboard pieces.

6. Pull the embroidery thread tight and tie a knot. Remove the templates. You should have a shaggy-looking pom-pom at this point.

7. Cut two circular templates from cardboard, slightly smaller than the original templates. Sandwich the pom-pom between the two cardboard circles and use the edge of the cardboard as a guide to trim the pom-pom.

8. Make two more pom-poms and use the needle and embroidery thread to sew them together in a triangle shape with two pom-poms side by side and the third centred below that pair. Pass the needle through the centre of the pom-poms several times.

9. Continue trimming until you have a heart shape.

10. Add a loop of ribbon for hanging.

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IT'S SEXY CANADA!

CANADIANS AREN'T DULLARDS WHEN IT COMES TO SEXUALITY

So says Dr. David McKenzie, a Vancouver-based couples counsellor and sex therapist – and that's especially true if you live in British Columbia. The province is considered to be more sexually open compared to Ontario, for example, where the industrious and somewhat uptight profile of the province is likely reflected in the boudoir as well!

"Sex never stands alone. It's always connected to other issues, both within ourselves and within relationships," says Dr. McKenzie. "So if you're going to have a more liberal and open person politically and otherwise, you're going to find that person on the whole to be more open too."

McKenzie says B.C. tends to be the adventuresome 'frontier land' of Canada. "Vancouver attracts a lot of people who want a more laid-back, recreational lifestyle."

Other regional personalities in Canada that he has noted: the Maritimes tends to be community-oriented with friendly down-to-earth people; Quebec is the passionate province; the Prairies are a friendly place; and Alberta is a very conservative province... with a more conservative attitude sexually.

In general, Canadians of all ages embrace sexuality. McKenzie cites a recent study by Eli Lily that shows couples in their 50s and 60s want more robust sex lives – they're looking for more adventure.

At the same time, Alexander McKay, research coordinator for the Sex Information and Education Council of Canada, says Canadian youth in particular have become more educated about sexuality. Younger people are increasingly savvy about their sexual health compared to past generations. They're more likely to use condoms and less likely to get pregnant then their parents were.

"All of it is part of the gradual liberalization of Canadian society around the issue of sexuality." McKay says youth in general are feeling more comfortable talking with friends and health professionals about sexuality and sexual health. Sex education has improved in some schools, and the internet has provided a way for every person to access information that is specifically suited to their own needs.

THE FIRST KISS

"It was Labour Day weekend and a bunch of friends from high school had met for drinks in the lakeside bar of the old Red Pines Hotel, before heading back to university," says Christine. She had been smitten with one of the guys — Christopher — for years, but they had never dated. "Somehow the two of us ended up walking along the shore of Kenogami Lake. There was a full harvest moon — it was all very romantic." Before long they were holding hands, then they stopped and shared a kiss. "That was it," she says, "then we were together."

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BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

McKay cautions that many Canadians are blissfully unaware about sexual health. He says people in their 20s, 30s and people who are newly single, are ignorant about things like sexually transmitted infection, and put themselves at risk.

Consistent condom use helps to reduce the risk of infections such as HIV, Chlamydia, genital herpes and HPV. Unfortunately, condom use declines with age.

"Some people stop using condoms when they are in a relationship. But most of us have more than one relationship over the years. If you stop using condoms in each relationship that equals unprotected sex with a number of different partners and increases the risk for getting a sexually transmitted infection."

sexcetera
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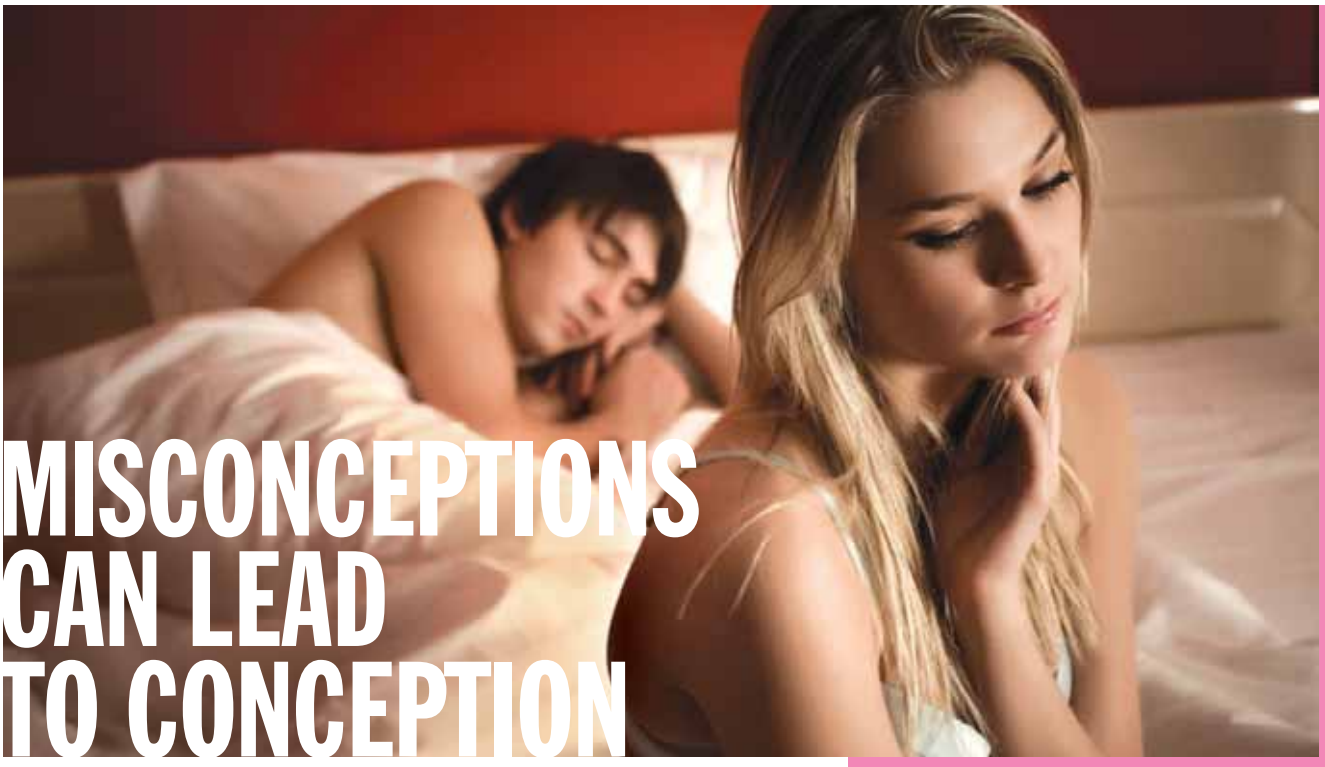


MISCONCEPTIONS CAN LEAD TO CONCEPTION

THERE ARE MANY METHODS OF CONTRA-CEPTION

and all of them, in a split-second, can fail.

Not to sound grim, but that's a fact. It could be as simple as missing a few birth-control pills. It could come down to a broken condom, or one that just slipped off. Maybe you forgot to insert your diaphragm? Anyone could make these mistakes, and lots of smart people do, every day.

But maybe all this seems moot? Maybe you're the type to plan ahead—someone who knows your own body and when you're most likely to get pregnant? Don't be so sure. People talk about a 'safe time of the month,' but it's hard to measure that precisely. Many women don't have regular periods anyway, particularly when they're stressed. Remember, too, that sperm can live up to seven days, so even if you hadn't ovulated when you had sex, the sperm could still fertilize the egg afterwards. You don't want uncertainty at a time like this.

Why take the risk? Why wait? You have an option. You can take control with plan B®.

plan B®, the "morning after pill", shouldn't replace your regular contraceptive method, but you can use it more than once, if you need to. Think of it as your emergency response. Accidents happen, even when you're careful, and that's why you have a plan B®.

GOT THE FACTS ABOUT PLAN B®?

Like any form of contraception, plan B®, the "morning after pill", isn't right for everyone, so make sure to talk to your doctor and pharmacist about the drug. In the meantime, you can test your knowledge with this true or false quiz:

"PLAN B® HAS NO EFFECT ON MY LONG-TERM FERTILITY." – TRUE

plan B® only works to prevent pregnancies occurring within the previous 72 hours. There is no evidence that plan B® has any effect on a woman's future ability to become pregnant.

"IT'S UNSAFE TO TAKE PLAN B® MORE THAN ONCE." – FALSE

plan B® should not be used on a regular basis, nor does taking extra doses make it more effective. However, there's no medical reason why you can't use it more than once.

"I NEED TO SEE MY DOCTOR TO GET PLAN B®." – FALSE

plan B® is available at pharmacies across Canada. It can be found on shelf in all provinces except in Saskatchewan where it is kept behind the counter and in Quebec where it is available under prescription by your pharmacist.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS? NO PROBLEM.

Call the plan B® info line to get answers, from anywhere in Canada, at **1-888-550-6060**.
And for more information about plan B® and how it works, visit **www.planb.ca**.

Plan B® is an emergency contraceptive. It is not recommended for routine use as a contraceptive.
It des not protect against HIV/AIDS ad other STDs. This product may not be right for you. Always read and follow label directions.

PLAN B® TO THE RESCUE

Your birth control method just failed. How do you feel? Scared, maybe? Trapped? Pregnancy's a wonderful thing, but not until you're ready for it. And that's why you've got plan B®, the "morning after pill".

If you've had unprotected sex or a contraceptive accident in the last 72 hours, and you don't want to get pregnant, plan B® may be your best way to prevent it. How effective is it? The sooner you take it, the more likely it is to work. In fact, if taken within 24 hours, it is 95% effective at preventing pregnancy.

HOW DOES IT WORK? plan B® was the first emergency contraceptive approved for sale in Canada back in the year 2000 and it is taken by hundreds of thousands of Canadian women every year. It's simple to use: just two tablets, taken together, each containing 0.75 mg of levonorgestrel—the same ingredient commonly found in many birth control pills. If taken within 72 hours, plan B® helps prevent pregnancy (by doing one of three things: temporarily stops the release of an egg from the ovary, prevents fertilization, and prevents a fertilized egg from attaching to the uterus).

It may also be comforting to know that plan B® has no effect on an existing pregnancy; clinical studies show that plan B® will have no effect if you are already pregnant.

It's very unlikely that you will have any severe reaction to plan B®. Some people might experience nausea or vomiting after having taken plan B®, and these side effects usually pass within 24 hours. Speak to your pharmacist to find out if it's right for you.

GET IT AT THE PHARMACY. USE IT. IT'S EASY.

If you need plan B®, it isn't hard to find. No need to go see a doctor, just head to your local pharmacy. The "morning after pill" is available across Canada, and in most provinces, it can be purchased over the counter. Look for it under Birth Control, Contraceptives, Feminine Hygiene, or Family Planning. If you live in Saskatchewan, plan B® is kept behind the counter. And if you're purchasing it in Quebec, you'll need a prescription from your pharmacist. Pretty simple.

Did you know that forgetting two birth control pills can matter?

Misconceptions can lead to conception. More often than you might think, unwanted pregnancies happen because we don't have all the facts. Or, if we do have the facts, we sometimes kid ourselves they don't apply to us. If you've had unprotected sex or a contraceptive accident, you are at risk of an unwanted pregnancy – so don't wait till it's too late. It's only human to put off decisions or tell ourselves that everything's fine. But if you wait for your next period, you may have a much bigger decision to make.

plan B® gives you another option. It's the morning-after pill that acts before fertilization by temporarily stopping the release of an egg from the ovary. You can take it up to 72 hours after intercourse; but the sooner you take it, the more effective it is.

plan B® is now available directly on pharmacy shelves.*
No prescription is required.†
For more information, visit **www.planb.ca**

plan B® is an emergency contraceptive. It is not recommended for routine use as a contraceptive. It does not protect against HIV/AIDS and other STDs. This product may not be right for you. Always read and follow label directions.

* Except Saskatchewan, where it is available at the pharmacy counter.
† Except Quebec, where a pharmacist's prescription is required.

Home is for the heart

Take a break from the chocolates and roses this year and instead focus on your lover's living quarters

DESIGN CENTRE

KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

Finding a way to show your love to your sweetheart can be very stressful on Valentine's Day, so why not forgo the chocolates or roses and create a romantic environment for the one you love?

Special decor touches of colour, texture and whimsy can bring heart-thumping feelings all year long. Here are a few sexy yet personal home goods that are sure to lift your love of everything decor.

Flicker of love

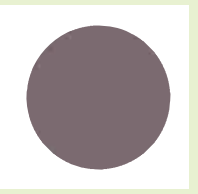
The Island Nights candle is one of the most sensually scented candles, with orchids, orange, musk and jasmine.

Tip: the coral sleeve makes a fabulous bottle coaster when the candle is long gone, and the amethyst glass container would be stylish on a desk as a pencil holder. $47, crabtreeevelyn.com

Luscious Lips

Is there anything that makes more of a statement? I'd use this sexy sofa as a banquette by placing a stylish dining table near it.

A sofa with such personality is the star of the room. Other furnishings should be simpler in design and colour. A modern square-shaped chair in dark grey will make the sofa stand out even more. $1,500 includes delivery. sexyfurnishings.com



Sexy Walls

Painting the wall behind a bed or sofa can add much needed pizzazz to an all neutral, boring room. Surprise your loved one with the gift of a focal wall this Valentine's Day. The perfect colour of love is Bon Nuit AF635 from Benjamin Moore Paints. This murky purple tone looks great with almost any colour, especially the popular chocolate browns and greys. benjaminmoore.ca

A glitter in your eye

Cool chrome and red acrylic droplets create a splashy light fixture in a foyer or over a dramatic dining table.

Red means love. Hang it low (about four-to-five feet off the floor) over a corner table for a modern focal point in the living room. $299, Euphoria Chandelier. homedepot.ca

A piece of me

Just a bit of body fluid, a kiss or fingerprint and look what you can give him? Your DNA makes personalized art. Go for bold and go big!

Large art is a great way to give big impact to a small space whether it be your lips or finger prints. From $100. canvaspop.com

Tech Treats

Treat him to the ultimate docking station for i-fetish items. The BeoSound8 is the perfect blend of style and sound.

Beware: one piece of B&O technology often leads to another ... you may be creating a style-tech obsession for him! $1090, Bang & Olufsen. bang-olufsen.com

Under The Tuscan Sun

Treat her to an exclusive girl's week in Tuscany with designer and television personality Debbie Travis. She's guaranteed to come home with a million ideas to make the home more romantic. Remember: a trip for her is also a vacation for you, and you'll be the hero. From $4,700 (plus air). debbietravis.com

How to turn your shower into a spa

DIY IDEAS

When planning to remodel the shower, consider installing a shower bench to add luxury and comfort to your space.

Shower benches have become one of the most popular additions to the bathroom and give any stand-up shower a spa-like feel without breaking the bank.

DIY Network Canada's BATHtastic! (airing Fridays at 9 p.m. ET/PT and 9:30pm ET/PT) offers a step-by-step guide to framing and constructing a shower bench to fit any space.

Step 1: Plan it out

Measure the space in the shower and sketch out a rough design of where the bench will go. The simplest design is a rectangle that spans the width of the space against the back shower wall.

Step 2: Make a frame

Start construction by making the top frame for the bench. This will be the piece you sit on in the shower.

While wearing safety goggles, use a miter saw to cut 2x4s to the measured length and width of the bench. Lay out the four pieces in the shape of a rectangle and secure together with a framing nail gun.

Step 3: Secure the top

Bring the newly-created top piece of the bench into the shower and position it at the desired height. Level the bench and nail each end into a wall stud against the back shower wall.

To reinforce the top piece, measure its inside length and width and construct a cross-shaped piece out of 2x4s.

Using the framing nail gun, nail the cross-shaped piece inside the constructed top piece.

Step 4: Add some legs

To make legs, measure the height between the bottom of the shower and the bottom of the mounted frame. Cut the legs from 2x4 lumber and attach to the frame with the framing nail gun.

Step 5: Cover and tile

Cover all the framing with a waterproof membrane and backerboard.

Using silicone, caulk all seams. Tile the bench using mortar and a tile pattern that complements the shower's design and round the edges with a masonry stone.

When the mortar has dried, grout the joints and clean the tile. After the grout has dried, seal the grout lines with a sealant.

WATCH DIY NETWORK CANADA, ON FREE PREVIEW, THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

ISTOCK

▶ Adding a bench to your shower can provide luxury and comfort.

Mini artwork in a chocolate bite

ARTISAN CONFECTIONS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Decorated designer chocolates from Artisan Confections.

When Valentine's Day approaches, many stores stock up on the usual fare: shiny, red, heart-shaped boxes with a variety of ordinary chocolates.

This year, why not kick your expression of love up a notch and buy some really beautiful, really delicious sweet treats? Small artisanal producers are creating gorgeous designs.

Most of these creative chocolatiers have a brick-and-mortar, as well as an online store, and many will be pleased to create customized bonbons, with appropriate lead time.

One example is former pastry chef Jason Andelman. With a Fine Arts background and an honours degree from the Culinary Institute of America, Andelman crafts flavours such as malted milk, salted butter caramel, espresso lemon, and organic mint with French chocolate, and decorates the bonbons with hip modern graphic designs.

He invites local artists to create seasonal, limited-edition designs, and part of the sales go back to support local Arlington, Va., cultural projects.

Attractive orange boxes wrapped with burgundy ribbon hold the goodies. Visit artisanconfections.com.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A dinner to brighten your plate

You can add a splash of colour to your kitchen table with these fresh coriander turkey burgers

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

This time of year may bring you down, with cold days and long nights leaving you longing for spring to get here — now.

Why not brighten your plate and your mood with vibrant flavours and colourful ingredients?

Even though you might not have the barbecue handy (because it's covered with snow!), you can still enjoy burgers.

These turkey burgers are made with a twist and can be cooked right in your skillet on the stove.

They are lean and full of fresh ginger, coriander and garlic to keep you humming a tasty tune right into spring.

For a side dish, these turkey burgers can be paired with fresh vegetables such as carrots, broccoli and tomatoes.

You can also feel free to top them with your favourite burger toppings including cheese, lettuce, pickles and condiments.

Preparation:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together the egg and soy sauce. Stir in the onions, garlic, ginger, coriander, breadcrumbs and pepper. Add the turkey and, using your hands, mix turkey into egg mixture until evenly distributed. Shape into 4 patties that are about ½ inch (1 cm) thick.
2. Place the patties in a large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat; cover and cook them for about 15 minutes, turning once or until the burgers are no longer pink inside.

Ingredients:

- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) sodium reduced soy sauce
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) minced fresh ginger
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) chopped fresh coriander leaves
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) dry breadcrumbs or crushed crackers
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) pepper
- 1 lb (500 g) extra lean ground turkey or chicken

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOK BOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

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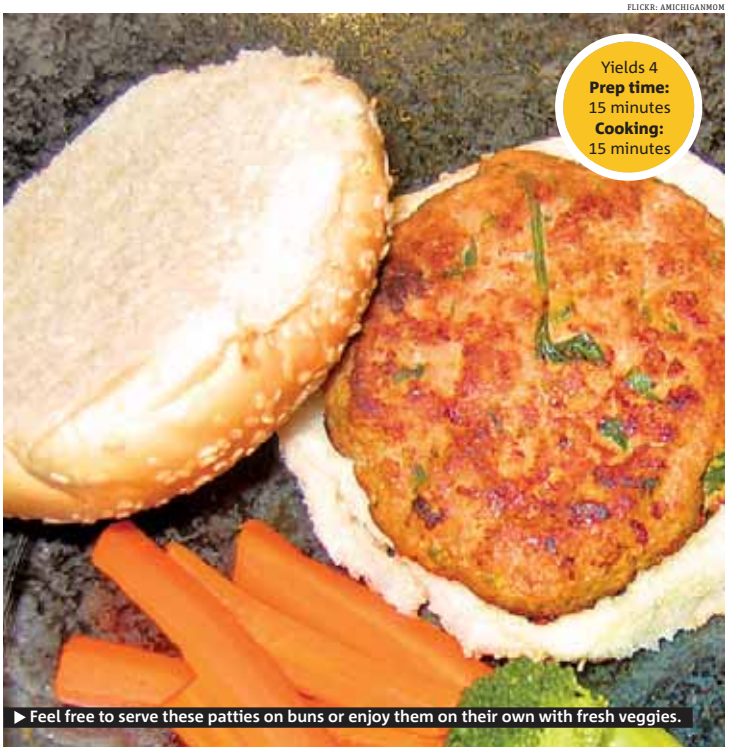

▶ Feel free to serve these patties on buns or enjoy them on their own with fresh veggies.

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Burke shuffles the Ducks again

ABELIMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Francois Beauchemin

"I was kind of expecting something to happen with all the rumours that were out there lately. I loved it here."
FRANCOIS BEAUCHEMIN

Wilson expects new forward Lupul to play with Bozak and MacArthur

Brian Burke is rolling the dice again.

In acquiring forward Joffrey Lupul from Anaheim yesterday, the Toronto Maple Leafs general manager hopes he's added a highly motivated player that has put a major injury behind him. Even he acknowledges that it's far from a sure thing.

"There's a human element in all of this," said Burke. "You bet on people every time you make a trade. If this were just buying cars or buying livestock it would be a lot easier. But we're betting on human beings.

"I bet on Joffrey Lupul because of his character and his skill level and I believe he thinks he has something to prove."

Burke parted ways with defenceman Francois Beauchemin in the trade and also added prospect Jake Gardiner — a first-round selection in 2008 — and a conditional draft pick in 2013.

The deal sees Toronto assume salary because Lupul will earn $4.25 million US over the next two years while Beauchemin has one year remaining on his deal at $3.8 million.

"He may be overpaid for what he does now," Burke said of Lupul. "That's OK, that's not the player's fault. When the player's overpaid, one of us (GMs) made a mistake."

Lupul is a three-time 20 goal-scorer that sat out nearly a year with a back injury and subsequent blood infection before working his way back into Anaheim's lineup Dec. 5.

He was used primarily as a third-liner with the Ducks and is looking forward to assuming an expanded role on a Leafs team looking for more offence.

"I have a lot to prove to myself and to the team that just let me go and, first and foremost, to the new organization and my new teammates," said Lupul.

For Beauchemin, it marks a return to a familiar setting.

The 30-year-old spent parts of four seasons with the Ducks before signing a three-year contract with the Leafs as a free agent in 2009. He was one of Toronto's leaders in ice time and spent much of the season on the top defensive pairing with Dion Phaneuf.

Beauchemin had a limited no-trade clause and provided Burke with a list of 12 teams he was willing to be dealt to prior to the season.

"I loved it here. Great city to play, great group of guys, but last year was a tough year and this year we're still out of a playoff spot," said Beauchemin.

Burke made it clear he expects to make more moves, but noted "nothing is imminent."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

64
Number of points recordered by Jake Gardiner (16-48) in 110 career games for the Wisconsin Badgers. He has 30 points (7-23) in 30 games for the Badgers this season. Burke drafted him with the 2008 17th pick while still with the Ducks.

ANDRE RINGUETTE/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jake Gardiner

BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Joffrey Lupul

"I think definitely I have a lot to prove to a lot of people now. The Anaheim Ducks kind of just let me go after 20 games."
JOFFREY LUPUL

Nagging back injury sidelines Alfredsson

Ottawa Senators captain Daniel Alfredsson will be out indefinitely due to a lingering lower back injury.

The veteran forward is hopeful that he'll be able to return to the lineup in less than two weeks.

"I've been having a little bit of a problem the last few weeks especially," Alfredsson said yesterday. "I was hoping the all-star break was going to help me to go forward but the last two games, it hasn't been as good as I would have liked."

31 Alfredsson, 38, has recorded 31 points (14 goals, 17 assists) in 54 games this season.

Senators head coach Cory Clouston said his captain needs a break.

"It's the only thing we can do right now," Clouston said. "It's to the point where we don't want to put him in jeopardy as far as health. He's not able to do the things he wants to be able to do right now, and it's getting worse and worse. It's been a while since he's been anywhere near 100 per cent."

Ottawa entered last night's game at Calgary in 14th place in the NHL's Eastern Conference standings. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Sports in brief

Another Isles goalie injured

NHL. Islanders rookie goalie Kevin Poulin will miss the rest of the season after hurting his knee during pre-game warmups Tuesday night.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Roy's return pushed back

NBA. Guard Brandon Roy has returned to practice with the Portland Trail Blazers but he won't return to the lineup this weekend as he had hoped.

Roy, who had arthroscopic surgery on both knees a little more than three weeks ago, worked out for about a half-hour with his teammates yesterday.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Quoted

"It was the worst hit I've ever had from behind. I wasn't surprised, not when you see (Cooke) in the highlights all the time for dirty hits."
COLUMBUS DEFENCEMAN FEDOR TYUTIN AFTER BEING HIT BY PITTSBURGH'S MATT COOKE TUESDAY NIGHT.

"The player looks him right in the eye, knows he's coming and makes sure he keeps his number turned toward him, but Matt does hit him there and send him into the boards."
PENGUINS COACH DAN BYLSMA

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	53	35	13	2	3	180	137	75	18-7-0-2	17-6-2-1	8-2-0-0	W2
d-Tampa Bay	55	33	17	3	2	168	169	71	18-6-1-1	15-11-2-1	7-3-0-0	L1
d-Boston	54	31	16	2	5	169	125	69	15-10-1-2	16-6-1-3	7-3-0-0	W1
Pittsburgh	55	34	17	2	2	165	126	72	19-10-1-0	15-7-1-2	7-3-0-0	L2
Washington	55	29	16	5	5	150	136	68	17-6-2-5	12-10-3-0	5-2-1-2	L1
Montreal	55	30	20	4	1	145	139	65	18-7-3-1	12-13-1-0	5-3-1-1	L2
NY Rangers	56	29	23	2	2	155	138	62	12-12-1-2	17-11-1-0	3-6-0-1	L5
Carolina	54	26	21	3	4	161	167	59	14-9-1-1	12-12-2-3	4-5-1-0	L1
Atlanta	56	24	22	4	6	162	183	58	12-11-1-4	12-11-3-2	2-5-1-2	L4
Buffalo	52	25	22	5	0	152	153	55	12-12-1-0	13-10-4-0	7-3-0-0	W2
Florida	53	23	24	2	4	141	143	52	11-9-2-3	12-15-0-1	2-4-1-3	L1
Toronto	54	23	26	2	3	143	169	51	13-11-2-2	10-15-0-1	5-5-0-0	W2
New Jersey	54	20	30	3	1	116	156	44	11-13-2-1	9-17-0-1	8-1-1-0	W2
Ottawa	54	17	29	5	3	119	178	42	9-15-2-2	8-14-3-1	0-8-1-1	L10
NY Islanders	53	17	29	3	4	131	174	41	9-13-1-3	8-16-2-1	3-7-0-0	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	54	35	10	4	5	183	127	79	19-3-1-4	16-7-3-1	6-1-1-2	W6
d-Detroit	54	32	16	4	2	177	160	70	16-8-3-1	16-8-1-1	5-5-0-0	L1
d-San Jose	55	30	19	4	2	155	146	66	13-10-2-1	17-9-2-1	9-0-0-1	W5
Dallas	53	30	18	1	4	152	150	65	16-7-1-3	14-11-0-1	5-5-0-0	L3
Nashville	55	29	19	4	3	145	130	65	12-5-3-3	17-14-1-0	5-4-0-1	W1
Phoenix	55	27	19	6	3	156	156	63	12-10-3-2	15-9-3-1	4-6-0-0	W2
Anaheim	54	29	21	2	2	146	150	62	17-8-0-1	12-13-2-1	7-3-0-0	W1
Calgary	55	27	21	2	5	157	161	61	15-9-0-2	12-12-2-3	7-1-1-1	W1
Los Angeles	53	29	22	1	1	150	129	60	17-9-1-0	12-13-0-1	6-3-0-1	W2
Minnesota	52	27	20	1	4	135	138	59	12-11-0-2	15-9-1-2	6-4-0-0	L1
Chicago	53	27	22	2	2	168	150	58	16-13-0-0	11-9-2-2	5-4-0-1	L2
Columbus	54	26	23	3	2	147	166	57	13-13-0-1	13-10-3-1	5-3-1-1	L1
St. Louis	52	24	20	4	4	140	154	56	16-8-1-2	8-12-3-2	4-4-2-0	W1
Colorado	53	25	22	6	0	164	175	56	14-13-3-0	11-9-3-0	3-7-0-0	L4
Edmonton	53	16	29	1	7	133	180	40	7-14-1-3	9-15-1-3	2-7-0-1	W1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last nights results
Boston 8 Montreal 6
Nashville 4 Detroit 1
San Jose 3 Columbus 2
Colorado at Minnesota
Phoenix at Dallas
Ottawa at Calgary
Chicago at Edmonton
Anaheim at Vancouver
Tuesday's results
Toronto 5 N.Y. Islanders 3
San Jose 2 Washington 0
Columbus 4 Pittsburgh 1
New Jersey 3 Carolina 2 (OT)
St. Louis 2 Florida 1
Buffalo 7 Tampa Bay 4
Tonight's games
New Jersey at **Toronto**, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Buffalo at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY

MAPLE LEAFS 5, ISLANDERS 3

First Period
1. Toronto, Armstrong 7 (Boyce, Kaberle) 1:29
2. Toronto, Rosehill 1 (Schenn) 6:31
3. N.Y. Islanders, Moulson 19 (Tavares, Parenteau) 10:48 (pp)
Penalties — Kaberle Tor (hooking) 9:53, Phaneuf Tor (hooking) 10:59.
Second Period
4. N.Y. Islanders, Grabner 17 (Martinek, Okposo) 15:02
Penalties — Rosehill Tor (goaltender interference) 7:10, Colliton NYI (hooking) 10:24, Wishart NYI (tripping) 16:19, MacDonald NYI (holding) 18:03.
Third Period
5. Toronto, Kaberle 3 (Armstrong, Boyce) 2:34
6. Toronto, Kulemin 20 (Kessel) 8:49
7. Toronto, Sjostrom 2 (Armstrong, Boyce) 14:53
8. N.Y. Islanders, Schremp 10 (Jurcina, M.Martin) 18:08
Penalties — Martinek NYI (tripping) 4:21, Schenn Tor (delay of game) 19:38, Parenteau NYI (high-sticking) 19:56.
Shots

Toronto	7	12	7—26
N.Y. Islanders	12	10	12—34

Goal — Toronto: Reimer (W,6-4-0); N.Y. Islanders: Koskinen (L,0-1-0). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Toronto: 0-4; N.Y. Islanders: 1-4.
Referees — Brian Pochmara, Steve Kozari.
Linesmen — Tim Nowak, Brad Kovachik.
Att. — 7,249 (16,234) at Uniondale, N.Y.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Stamkos, TB	40	32	72
D.Sedin, Vcr	28	41	69
Crosby, Pgh	32	34	66
H.Sedin, Vcr	12	54	66
St. Louis, TB	20	44	64
B.Richards, Dal	21	38	59
Perry, Ana	28	28	56
Zetterberg, Det	16	40	56
Ovechkin, Wash	20	35	55
E.Staal, Car	26	28	54
Kesler, Vcr	31	21	52
Eriksson, Dal	18	34	52
Iginla, Cal	22	28	50
Giroux, Pha	19	31	50
Kopitar, LA	16	34	50
Backstrom, Wash	14	36	50
J.Carter, Pha	25	23	48
M.Richards, Pha	17	31	48
Sharp, Chi	26	21	47
Vanek, Buf	21	26	47
Ribeiro, Dal	10	37	47
Nash, Clb	24	22	46
Heatley, SJ	19	27	46
Toews, Chi	19	27	46
Selanne, Ana	15	31	46
J.Thornton, SJ	14	32	46
Briere, Pha	26	19	45
Duchene, Col	20	25	45
Havlat, Minn	14	31	45
M.Koivu, Minn	14	31	45
Yandle, Phx	9	36	45
Bergeron, Bos	19	25	44
Hejduk, Col	17	27	44
MacArthur, Tor	17	27	44
Lidstrom, Det	11	33	44
Skinner, Car	20	23	43
Plekanec, Mtl	18	25	43
P.Stastny, Col	17	26	43
Clowe, SJ	14	29	43
Visnovsky, Ana	8	35	43
J.Williams, LA	19	23	42
Byfuglien, Atl	17	25	42
Tanguay, Cal	14	28	42
Franzen, Det	26	15	41
Ryan, Ana	23	18	41
Datsyuk, Det	13	28	41
T.Ruutu, Car	12	29	41
Enstrom, Atl	8	33	41
Letang, Pgh	7	34	41
Grabovski, Tor	22	18	40
Kulemin, Tor	20	20	40
Umberger, Clb	19	21	40
Dubinsky, NYR	18	22	40
Tavares, NYI	18	22	40
Ladd, Atl	17	23	40
P.Kane, Chi	15	25	40
Steen, StL	15	25	40
Backes, StL	18	21	39
D.Brown, LA	18	21	39
Elias, NJ	13	26	39
Leino, Pha	13	26	39
Marleau, SJ	19	19	38
J.Jokinen, Car	12	26	38
Ra.Whitney, Phx	10	28	38
Neal, Dal	20	17	37
Malkin, Pgh	15	22	37
Weiss, Fla	15	22	37
Brassard, Clb	13	24	37
Getzlaf, Ana	13	24	37
J.Johnson, LA	5	32	37
Morrow, Dal	23	13	36
Kunitz, Pgh	18	18	36
Samuelsson, Vcr	11	25	36
Doan, Phx	11	25	36
Recchi, Bos	10	26	36
D.Boyle, SJ	6	30	36
Kaberle, Tor	3	33	36
Couture, SJ	24	11	35
Kessel, Tor	19	16	35
Semin, Wash	18	17	35
Kovalchuk, NJ	17	18	35

Not including last night's games

TRANSACTIONS

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON RED SOX — Agreed to terms with RHP Alfredo Aceves on a one-year contract and LHP Dennys Reyes on a minor league contract. Designated RHP Robert Coello for assignment.

NFL

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Named Ray Horton defensive coordinator.
ATLANTA FALCONS — Released S Erik Coleman. Re-signed LB Coy Wire to a two-year contract.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Terminated the contracts of NT Shaun Rogers, LB Eric Barton, LB David Bowens, DL Kenyon Coleman, TE Robert Royal and OL John St. Clair.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Named David Walker running backs coach and Devin Fitzsimmons coaching assistant.
NEW YORK JETS — Signed LB Brandon Long, LB Garrett McIntyre and K Nick Novak to reserve/future contracts.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Signed DT Barrett Moen.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Named Bruce Matthews offensive line coach.

NHL

NHL — Suspended Pittsburgh F Matt Cooke four games and announced he will forfeit $87,804.88 for a charging incident involving Columbus D Fedor Tyutin during Tuesday's game. Suspended New Jersey D Anton Volchenkov three games and announced he will forfeit $68,548.38 for delivering a blow to the head of Carolina F Zach Boychuk during Tuesday's game.
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Recalled D Brett Carson from Charlotte (AHL) on an emergency basis.
DALLAS STARS — Activated C Tom Wandell from injured reserve.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Placed G Rick DiPietro on injured reserve. Recalled F Jesse Joensuu from Bridgeport (AHL).
OTTAWA SENATORS — Recalled F Bobby Butler and F Jim O'Brien from Binghamton (AHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Reassigned F Matias Ritola to Norfolk (AHL).
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Traded D Francois Beauchemin to Anaheim for F Joffrey Lupul, D Jake Gardiner and a conditional 2013 fourth-round draft pick.

SOCCER

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES

Yesterday's results
Albania 1 Slovenia 2
Belgium 1 Finland 1
Cambodia 3 Macau 1
Cape Verde Islands 1 Burkina Faso 0
Croatia 4 Czech Republic 2
Cyprus 1 Romania 1
(Romania wins 5-4 on penalty kicks)
Denmark 1 England 2
Equatorial Guinea 2 Chad 0
France 1 Brazil 0
Germany 1 Italy 1
Israel 0 Serbia 2
Libya 3 Benin 2
Luxembourg 2 Slovakia 1
Macedonia 0 Cameroon 1
Malaysia 2 Hong Kong 0
Malta 0 Switzerland 0
Morocco 3 Niger 0
Mozambique 1 Botswana 1
Namibia 1 Malawi 2
Netherlands 3 Austria 1
Nigeria 2 Sierra Leone 1
Philippines 2 Mongolia 0
San Marino 0 Liechtenstein 1
Senegal 4 Guinea 0
South Africa 2 Kenya 0
Spain 1 Colombia 0
Swaziland 0 Zambia 4
Tanzania 1 Palestine 0
Turkey 0 South Korea 0
At Larissa, Greece
Greece 1 **Canada 0**
At Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.
Iran 1 Russia 0
At Dubai, U.A.E.
Azerbaijan 0 Hungary 2
At Amadora, Portugal
Guinea-Bissau 3 Gambia 1
At Antalya, Turkey
Belarus 1 Kazakhstan 1
Estonia 2 Bulgaria 2
Latvia 2 Bolivia 1
At Dublin
Northern Ireland 0 Scotland 3
At Faro, Portugal
Poland 1 Norway 0
At Geneva
Argentina 2 Portugal 1
At Lagos, Nigeria
Moldova 2 Andorra 1
At Limassol, Cyprus
Armenia 1 Georgia 2
At Nicosia, Cyprus
Ukraine 1 Sweden 1
(Ukraine wins 5-4 on penalties)
At Rouen, France
Republic of Congo 0 Gabon 2

CURLING

ONTARIO TANKARD CHAMPIONSHIP

Yesterday's Results
Fifth Draw
Mark Bice 8 Jake Higgs 7
Glenn Howard 7 Chris Gardner 1
Mark Kean 8 Greg Balsdon 5
Dale Matchett 8 Nick Rizzo2
Howard Rajala 10 John Epping 5
Sixth Draw
Mark Bice 10 Howard Rajala 9 (extra end)
Peter Corner 5 Jake Higgs 2
John Epping 9 Chris Gardner 7
Glenn Howard 9 Greg Balsdon 7
Nick Rizzo 9 Mark Kean 5
Seventh Draw
Howard Rajala vs. Peter Corner
Greg Balsdon vs. John Epping
Nick Rizzo vs. Glenn Howard
Mark Kean vs. Dale Matchett
Mark Bice vs. Chris Gardner
Tuesday's results
Third Draw
John Epping 8 Peter Corner 2
Mark Kean 9 Howard Rajala 5
Chris Gardner 12 Dale Matchett 5
Greg Balsdon 9 Nick Rizzo 5
Glenn Howard 11 Jake Higgs 2
Fourth Draw
Greg Balson 10 Dale Matchett 6
Peter Corner 8 Mark Bice 5
John Epping 9 Jake Higgs 3
Chris Gardner 5 Mark Kean 4
Glenn Howard 7 Howard Rajala 1

TENNIS

ATP SAP OPEN

At San Jose, Calif.
Singles — First Round
Tuesday's results
Lukas Lacko, Slovakia, def. Sam Querrey (3), U.S., 7-6 (6), 6-3.
Milos Raonic, Thornhill, Ont., def. Xavier Malisse (4), Belgium, 6-3, 6-4.
Richard Berankis, Lithuania, def. Benjamin Becker (6), Germany, 6-3, 7-6 (2).
Kei Nishikori (8), Japan, def. Jan Hajek, Czech Republic, 6-1, 7-6 (6).
Brian Dabul, Argentina, def. Alejandro Falla, Colombia, 6-4, 6-3.
Juan Martin del Potro, Argentina, def.Teymuraz Gabashvili, Russia, 6-3, 6-2.

ATP ABN AMRO WORLD TOURNAMENT

At Rotterdam, Netherlands
Singles — First Round
Marcos Baghdatis, Cyprus, def. Andy Murray (2) Britain, 6-4, 6-1.
Mikhail Youzhny (6), Russia, def. Marcel Granollers, Spain, 6-2, 7-6 (6).
Feliciano Lopez, Spain, def. Florian Mayer, Germany, 6-3, 6-4.
Benoit Paire, France, def. Gilles Simon, France, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3.
Second Round
Marin Cilic, Croatia, def. Jurgen Melzer (5), Austria, 6-2, 6-4.
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (8), France, def. Michael Llodra, France, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Viktor Troicki, Serbia, def. Jarkko Nieminen, Finland, 7-6 (4), 7-5.

WTA OPEN GAZ DE FRANCE SUEZ

At Paris
Singles — First Round
Nadia Petrova (5), Russia, def. Virginie Razzano, France, 6-1, 6-3.
Andrea Petkovic (6), Germany, def. Angelique Kerber, Germany, 7-5, 3-6, 6-2.
Yanina Wickmayer (7), Belgium, def. Elena Vesnina, Russia, 7-6 (1), 6-2.
Sofia Arvidsson, Sweden, def. Alize Cornet, France, 6-2, 7-6 (5).
Second Round
Kim Clijsters (1), Belgium, def. Kristina Barrois, Germany, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0.
Dominika Cibulkova (8), Slovakia, def. Melanie Oudin, U.S., 6-4, 7-6 (5).

WTA PTT PATTAYA OPEN

At PATTAYA, Thailand
Singles — First Round
Singles
Second Round
Ana Ivanovic (2), Serbia, def. Jill Craybas, U.S., 4-6, 6-1, 7-5.
Galina Voskoboeva, Kazakhstan, def. Maria Kirilenko (3), Russia, 1-6, 7-5, 6-4.
Roberta Vinci (5), Italy, def. Zhang Shuai, China, 7-5, 6-1.
Peng Shuai (6), China, def. Elena Baltacha, Britain, 2-6, 6-1, 6-4.

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Toronto	6	4	2	.667	69	59	—
Buffalo	5	3	2	.600	53	50	½
Rochester	5	3	2	.600	49	54	½
Boston	7	4	3	.571	64	53	½
Philadelphia	6	3	3	.500	52	56	1

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Calgary	6	4	2	.667	71	69	—
Minnesota	5	3	2	.600	58	52	½
Washington	6	3	3	.500	69	72	1
Colorado	5	1	4	.200	47	51	2½
Edmonton	5	0	5	.000	44	59	3½

WEEK SIX
Friday's game
Washington at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Saturday's games
Calgary at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Rochester, 7:35 p.m.
Edmonton at Washington, 10:30 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	38	13	.745	—
d-Miami	38	14	.731	½
d-Chicago	34	16	.680	3½
Atlanta	33	19	.635	5½
Orlando	34	20	.630	5½
New York	26	25	.510	12
Philadelphia	24	28	.462	14½
Indiana	22	28	.440	15½
Charlotte	22	30	.423	16½
Milwaukee	20	31	.392	18
Detroit	20	33	.377	19
New Jersey	16	37	.302	23
Washington	14	37	.275	24
Toronto	14	39	.264	25
Cleveland	8	45	.151	31

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	44	8	.846	—
Dallas	36	15	.706	7½
d-L.A. Lakers	36	16	.692	8
d-Oklahoma City	33	18	.647	10½
New Orleans	32	22	.593	13
Utah	31	22	.585	13½
Denver	30	22	.577	14
Portland	28	24	.538	16
Memphis	28	26	.519	17
Phoenix	24	25	.490	18½
Houston	25	29	.463	20
Golden State	22	28	.440	21
L.A. Clippers	20	32	.385	24
Minnesota	13	39	.250	31
Sacramento	12	36	.250	30

d – division leader
Last night's results
Detroit 103 Cleveland 94
Indiana 104 Charlotte 103
New Jersey 103 New Orleans 101 (OT)
Orlando 99 Philadelphia 95
San Antonio 111 Toronto 100
Washington 100 Milwaukee 85
L.A. Clippers 116 New York 108
Chicago at Utah
Dallas at Sacramento
Denver at Golden State,
Tuesday's results
Philadelphia 117 Atlanta 83
Orlando 101 L.A. Clippers 85
San Antonio 100 Detroit 89
Miami 117 Indiana 112
Milwaukee 92 Toronto 74
Memphis 105 Oklahoma City 101 (OT)
Minnesota 112 Houston 108
Tonight's games
L.A. Lakers at Boston, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Dallas at Denver, 10:30 p.m.
Friday's Games
New Jersey at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Indiana, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Orlando, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Portland at Toronto, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Memphis, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at New York, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Utah, 10:30 p.m.

SPURS 111, RAPTORS 100

SAN ANTONIO (111)
Jefferson 1-2 0-0 3, Duncan 7-11 2-2 16, Blair 14-21 0-0 28, Parker 8-15 0-0 16, Ginobili 6-11 0-1 12, Hill 5-9 6-6 18, Splitter 2-3 2-7 6, Neal 3-5 1-3 9, Bonner 1-4 0-0 3, Novak 0-0 0-0 0, Quinn 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 47-81 11-19 111.
TORONTO (100)
Weems 4-9 0-0 8, A.Johnson 5-10 2-2 12, Bargnani 13-20 1-2 29, Calderon 3-9 0-0 6, DeRozan 10-18 5-7 25, Davis 0-0 0-2 0, Bayless 0-1 0-0 0, Barbosa 7-16 5-5 20, Ajinca 0-1 0-0 0, Wright 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 42-84 13-18 100.

San Antonio	31	29	21	30—111
Toronto	29	27	28	16—100

3-Point Goals—San Antonio 6-14 (Hill 2-2, Neal 2-3, Jefferson 1-1, Bonner 1-4, Parker 0-1, Ginobili 0-3), Toronto 3-9 (Bargnani 2-4, Barbosa 1-4, Calderon 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—San Antonio 51 (Blair 11), Toronto 38 (A.Johnson 13). Assists—San Antonio 30 (Ginobili 9), Toronto 22 (Calderon 11). Total Fouls—San Antonio 19, Toronto 18. Technicals—San Antonio defensive three second. A—15,867 (19,800) at Toronto.

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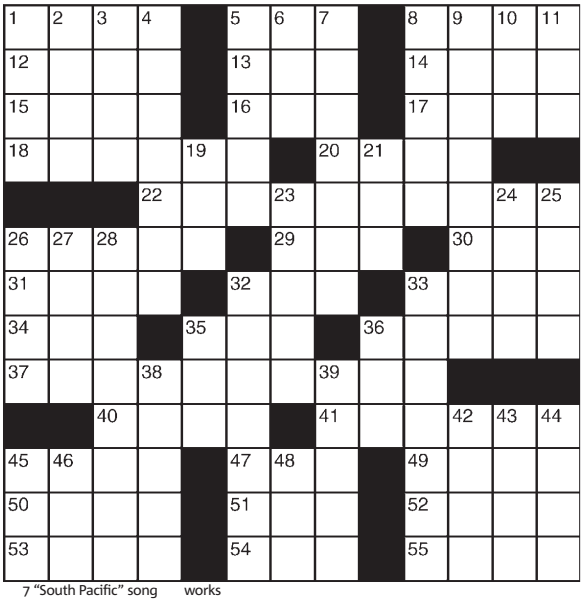
Crossword



Across

1 Blunder
5 Weep loudly
8 Window ledge
12 Hebrew month
13 Playwright Levin
14 Small combo
15 Come in second
16 — canto
17 Seeping
18 Blood channel
20 Object of worship
22 Admiral William of WWII
26 Assertion
29 Feedbag morsel
30 Rage
31 Amour
32 Phys. or biol.
33 Valhalla VIP
34 Mentalist Geller
35 Thee
36 Part songs
37 Consider
40 Albacore
41 Speak unclearly
45 Popular houseplant
47 Upper surface
49 Bedouin
50 Ireland
51 Have a bug
52 Poetic foot
53 Like candles or crayons
54 Crafty
55 Society newcomers

Down

1 Festive
2 Stench
3 Kiln
4 Comp
5 Prophetess
6 Raw rock
7 "South Pacific" song
8 Milkmaid's perch
9 Raymond Burr role
10 Claiborne of fashion
11 Actress Myrna
19 Pirates' quaff
21 Feline
23 — tenens (temporary officeholder)
24 Pennsylvania port
25 Longings
26 Organization
27 Traditional tales
28 Amelia Earhart, e.g.
32 Some Beethoven works
33 Kids' card game
35 Yang counterpart
36 Wildebeest
38 Soft and liquid
39 Suggest
42 Highland hillside
43 Mary's follower
44 Recedes
45 Not many
46 Historic time
48 Lubricate

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

3				6				5
	9			7			4	
2			4		9			3
9		1				4		7
		8	1		7	3		
7		6				5		2
4			7		2			9
	5			1			2	
1				4				8

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

7	6	4	1	5	8	9	2	3
1	9	8	3	4	2	5	7	6
2	3	5	7	9	6	8	4	1
9	5	6	4	8	1	2	3	7
8	2	1	6	7	3	4	5	9
3	4	7	9	2	5	1	6	8
4	1	3	5	6	9	7	8	2
5	8	9	2	3	7	6	1	4
6	7	2	8	1	4	3	9	5

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Ros I love you with all my heart. I hope you can forgive me for my mistakes all I want is to be with you **YOUR MUFFIN**

Mark, I love you sooo Much! You mean the world to me! Will you be my valentine? **LOVE YOUR GIRL G**

Adam, happy almost-Valentine's day baby! You are the sunshine on my rainy days <3 lav you so much!!! **YOUR FAVOURITE EV :)**

Mr. highlighter! I can't believe it's about to be our first valentines day together. You are honestly the light of my life and the reason I wake up in the morning. You're an amazing person and I want the whole world to know how much I love you :) **FOREVER YOURS, STEPHY <3**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You'll be in demand today, so promise yourself that you will not accept each and every invitation that comes your way. If you do, you will soon be exhausted. It's always about quality, not quantity.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Venus, your ruler, links with Pluto, planet of passion, in one of the best areas of your chart. That tells you anything of a creative or romantic nature will go brilliantly.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Be honest with yourself, and with other people, about what you can accomplish, even if it means you have to break a promise you made at the start of the year.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 It's time to patch things up with someone you fell out with. Why you drifted apart is not important. What matters is that you both realize life is better for when you're together.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Nothing will upset you today. The world around you may be in a constant state of crisis but you will sail through it all without a care. Are you in love? If you're not, you will be, soon.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You have a glow about you today and others will draw closer to feed off your inner warmth. Don't let them get too close or you'll be crowded, but don't turn them away, either. You're a magnet for good vibes.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Your imaginative powers are high and you must find ways to use them for your own enjoyment and profit. You must also find ways to cheer up someone going through a rough patch.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 With Venus, planet of love, on ideal terms with your ruler, Pluto, you can charm your way into the affections of anyone you please. You've always been irresistible but, today, the world wants to be your friend.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 If you are generous to others, they will be generous to you. However, if you refuse to help where help is needed, you will find that your own needs remain unfulfilled.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 The amount of intensity you have shown in recent weeks will match your easygoing mood now. Venus in your sign will help you see things in perspective, and Pluto will help you act on what you see.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 If you face a choice between making your own life more comfortable and helping someone who is not as fortunate as you, there is little doubt you'll choose the latter.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You will make an effort to see the good in each person you meet. You will also make it your business to do good yourself, knowing that it will spread outward. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

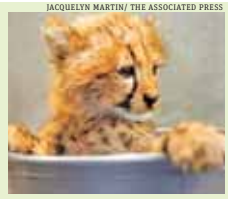
EUGENE HOSHIKO/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

JACQUELYN MARTIN/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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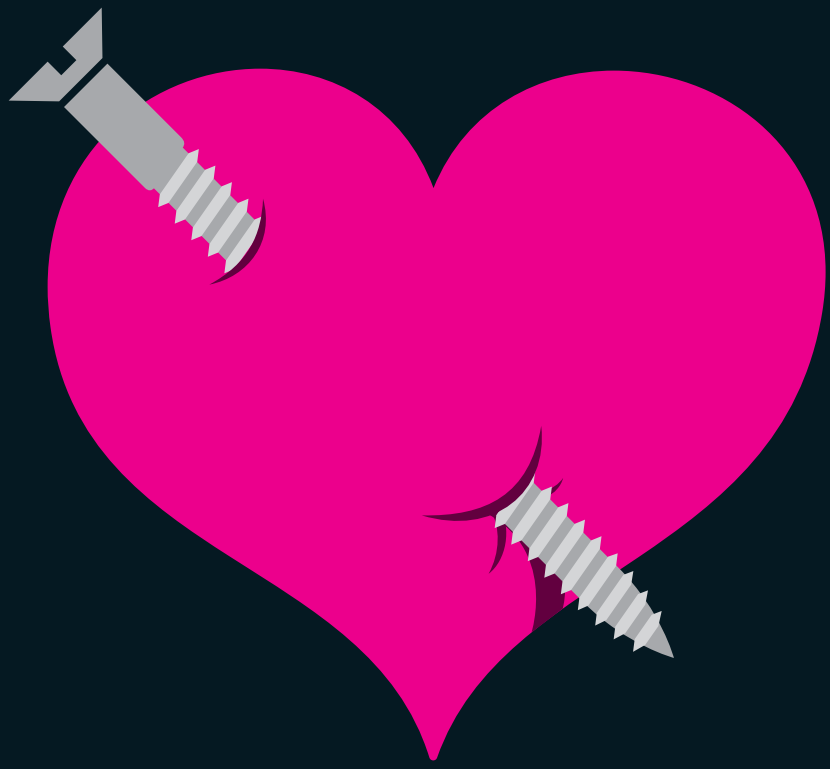

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